TOUCH

タッチ 12

あだち充

Shonen Sunday Comics

TOUCH タッチ 12

あだち充

★★

小学館

SSC—1132

小学館

★★定価 360円

タッチ

TOUCH

★"おはよう"のあいさつではじまる、いつもと同じ萌
★青学闇の一日。でも、いつもと同じじゃないことが…
★そう、達也と南のまわりでは、かすかですが、変化が
★生じたのです。たとえば、新由由加ちゃんの登場…!!

雑誌 45021—32

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タッチ

12

あだち充

Thinking About a Lot of Things

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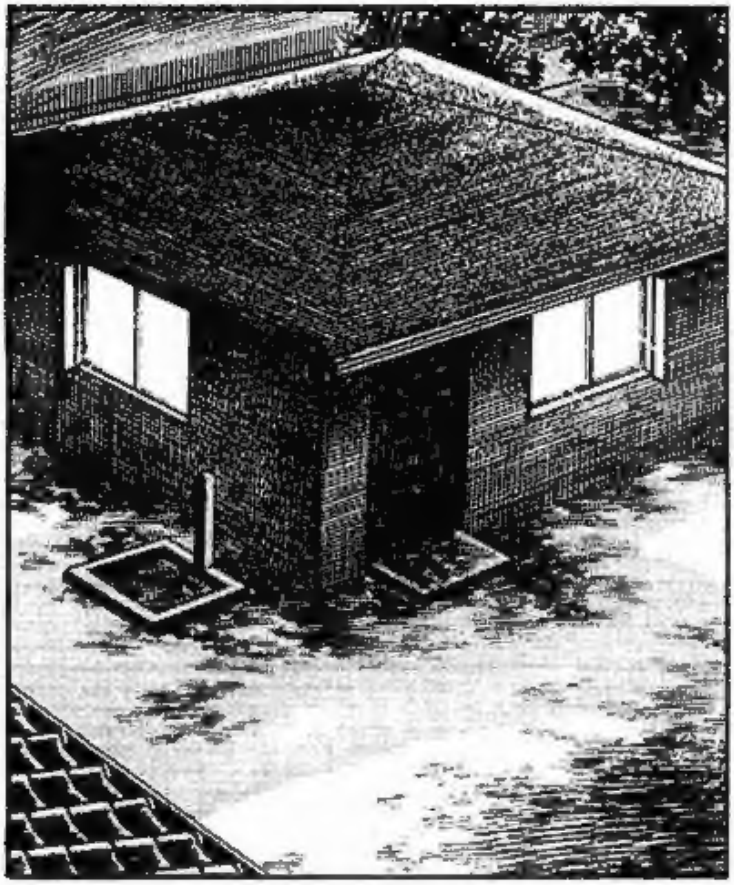
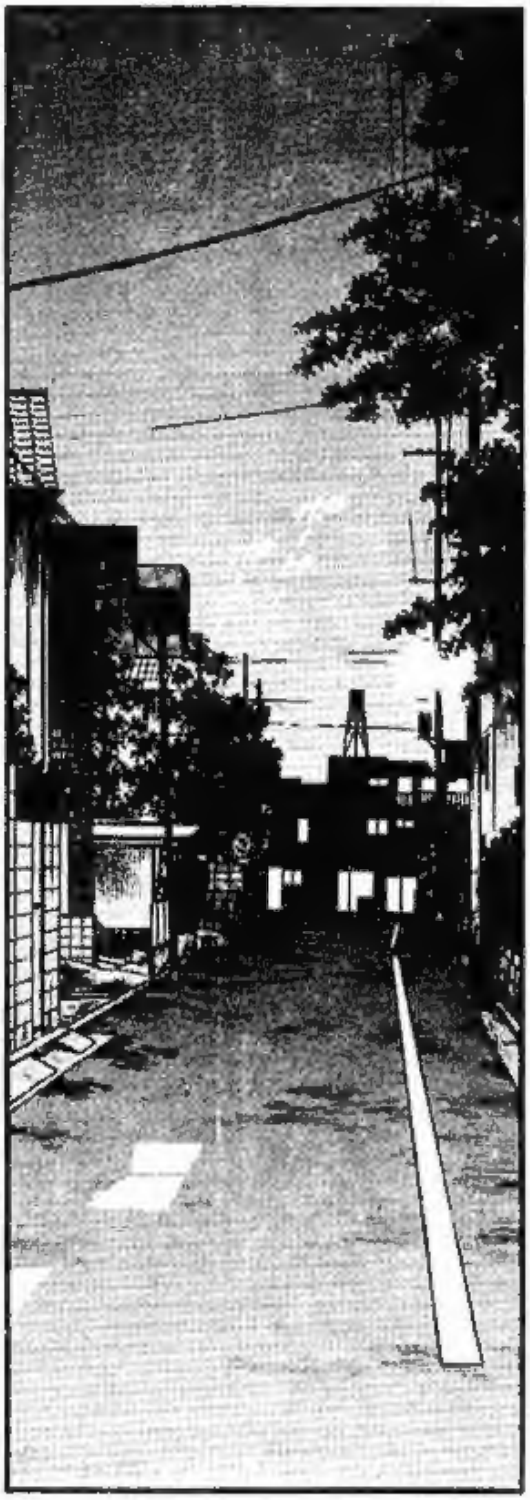




PROBABLY AN AM-BULANCE.
I WONDER IF SOME-THING HAPPENED?
I SEE...
THEN?
SO...
AND JUST WHAT ARE YOU TO MINAMI!?
HM?

GROWL
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S PRETTY TOUGH?
AH... THAT CONVER-SATION... HUH?
AND A CLASSMATE WHO LIVES NEXT DOOR, HM...
UH-HUH.
THAT YOU'RE A CHILD-HOOD FRIEND...
WELL, WHAT I CAN SAY, FIRST OF ALL, IS...
時間表
BUT... THAT'S NOT ALL!
IT'S LIKE...
I DON'T THINK...

NOT CLEAR, HUH?
THAT'S ...
TH-
THAT'S NOT CLEAR...
BEING NEIGH-BORS ...
FROM AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER, WE'VE PASSED OUR LIVES, SEEING EACH OTHER ALMOST EVERY DAY...
HM?
I'M SURE ...
THE DISTANCE IS TOO CLOSE ...
IT WAS A TIME WHEN MY MIND WAS QUITE AT EASE...
UH-HUH.
AND IT'S EXTREMELY NATURAL TO BE BESIDE YOU...
AND SO... I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE YOU, MINAMI...

I DON'T HAVE TO DISGRACE-FULLY LOSE MY HEAD...
NO MATTER HOW POPULAR YOU'VE BECOME NATIONWIDE IN RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS ...
AND SO... NO MATTER HOW BEAUTIFUL YOU'VE BECOME, MINAMI ...
BUT... WHILE I WAS DOING THINGS LIKE THAT ...
OVER AND OVER AGAIN MY FEELINGS WOULD RISE MORE AND MORE...
AND SO, I'LL TAKE...
AND START FEELING ANXIOUS AND JEALOUS ...
I WOULDN'T LIKE THAT...
AND IF WE GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS...
THEN I WOULD WANT TO CALL YOU, AND SEE YOU...

THAT'S THE PART THAT'S MISSING.
OUR RELATION-SHIP...
ISN'T TOO CLEAR...
AND ...
SO ...
HMM, HMM.
AND I ALSO CAN'T VERY WELL NOT SEE YOU...
I CAN'T VERY WELL MOVE AWAY...
IT'LL BE TERRIBLE AFTER THAT...
IF THAT'S DESTROYED AT SOME POINT...
WHAT'S MORE, THE TIME AT WHICH IT'S MADE CLEAR...

THINGS LIKE THAT...
IT ISN'T THAT I'M REALLY THINKING ABOUT IT EVERY DAY.
EXCELLENT, EXCELLENT.
OHO ...
HE'S THINKING ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS.
I'M TROUBLED.
EVEN IF I'M ASKED THAT SORT OF QUESTION NOW...
ANYWAY ...
I DON'T UNDER-STAND THAT...
I PROBABLY DON'T NEED TO GET SERIOUS AND GET IN HIS WAY...
BESIDES, GOING UP AGAINST NISHIMURA ...
IF YOU'RE GONNA CHOOSE AT ALL, THERE ARE A WHOLE LOT MORE COOLER GUYS AROUND.
DUMMY.

I'M JUST JOKING.
THEN, WHAT ABOUT NITTA-KUN?
HEY, HEY...
YOUR HOMEWORK, YOUR HOMEWORK.
THAT KATCHAN WAS DOING?
ARE YOU MANAGING TO DO THE PRACTICE MENU...

IT'S NOT...
AH... SORTA ...
HM?
.....
TAT-CHAN ..
IF YOU ...
THE RUNNING ALONE IS ALL THAT I CAN HANDLE.
TURNING OUT WELL.

A WONDERFUL PERSON WHO I SEEM TO REALLY BE NO MATCH FOR...
AND IF SHE'S ...
ARE SERIOUSLY IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ...
SUCH A BOTHER.
WHAT?
BUT IF INSTEAD ...
YOU'RE TAKEN IN BY A GOOD-FOR-NOTHING WOMAN, THEN I WON'T FORGIVE YOU.
GEH.
WILL GIVE YOU MY BLESSINGS, OKAY?
THEN I, AS YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIEND...

SLAM
GOOD NIGHT.
A NICE GIRL WHO MINAMI SEEMS TO BE NO MATCH FOR?
THAT'S PRETTY MUCH AN ABSURD WISH, HUH...
HMM
.....
IF IT'S A NICE GUY WHO I'M NO MATCH FOR...
THEN THERE'S A HUGE STACK OF THOSE...

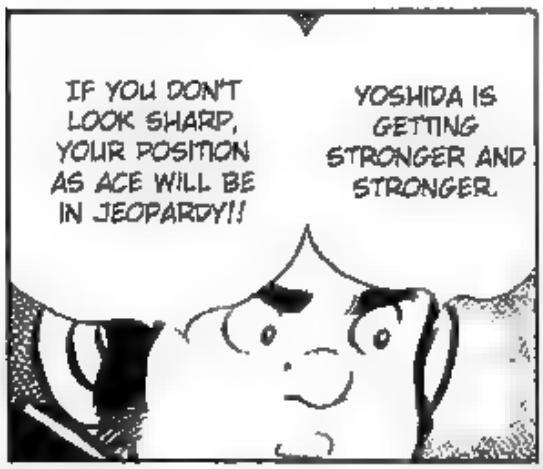
Meisei High School
2-A

UESUGI-I-I
...

RED-WHITE GAME?
I DIVIDED THE TEAM FOR THE RED-WHITE INTRA-SQUAD GAME.

YOSHIDA PITCHES FOR THE WHITE TEAM.
YOU'RE ON THE RED TEAM...

SURE.
SURE.
WEREN'T YOU LISTEN-ING?
I TOLD YOU YES-TERDAY.


IF YOU DON'T LOOK SHARP, YOUR POSITION AS ACE WILL BE IN JEOPARDY!!
YOSHIDA IS GETTING STRONGER AND STRONGER.

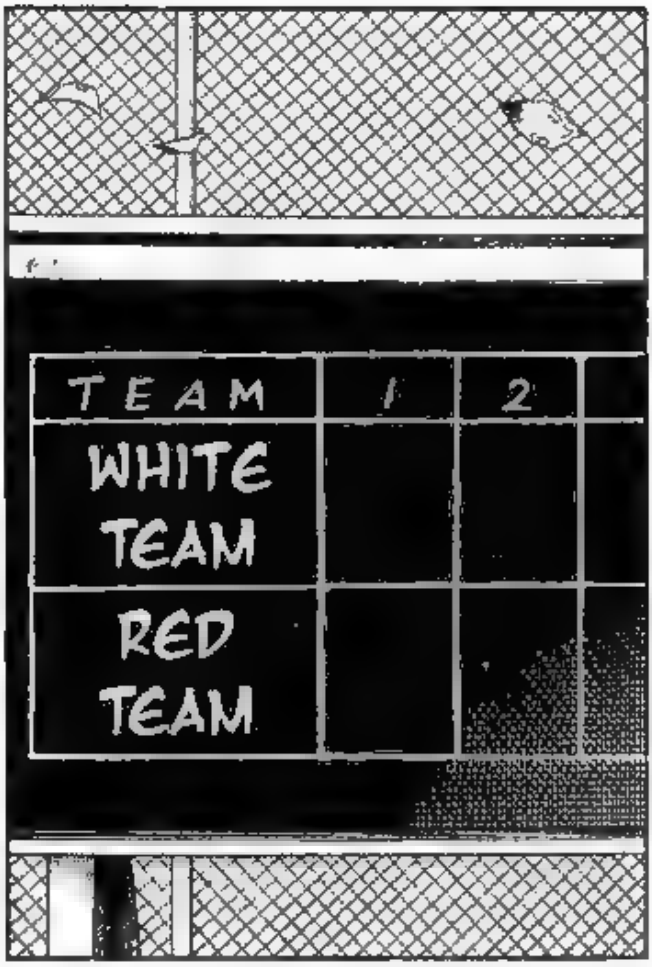
YOU'D BETTER NOT UNDER-ESTIMATE HIM!!
WHAT KIND OF GAME WOULD THAT BE?
OHO.

YES, CAPTAIN.
ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?
I'LL DO MY BEST.
YES, I GOTCHA, CAPTAIN.
AH... ASAKURA-KUN.

OKAY.
TO IMPROVE THE SCHOOL'S IMAGE.
THE MAGAZINE INTERVIEW AT 4:00 TODAY, I LEAVE TO YOU, OKAY?

GOOD LUCK, UESUGI-KUN.

RIGHT.
DO YOUR BEST.


TEAM
1
2
WHITE TEAM
RED TEAM

OKAY.
DON'T GIVE UP TOO MANY RUNS, 'KAY?

UESUGI-I-I.
YES?

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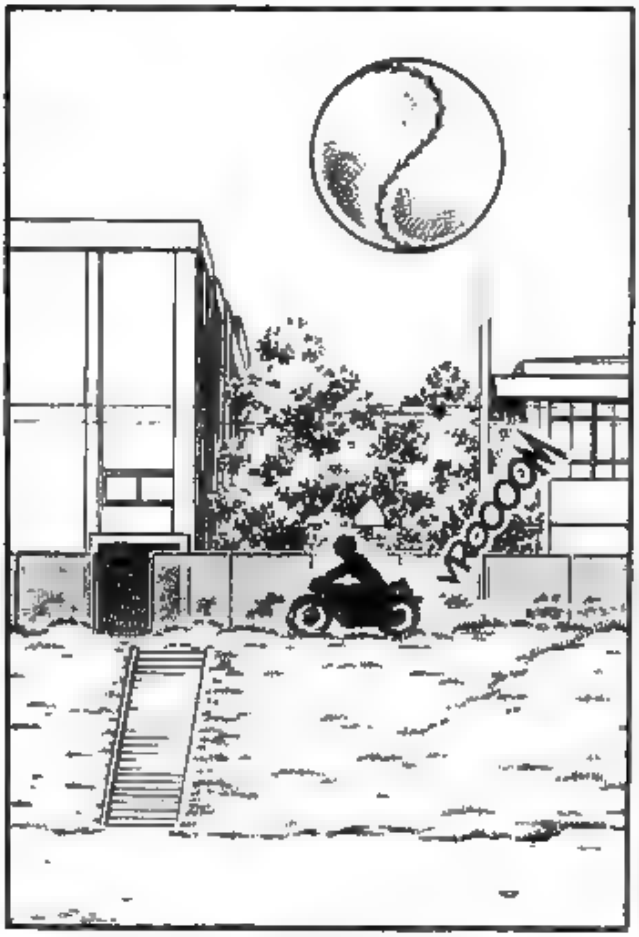

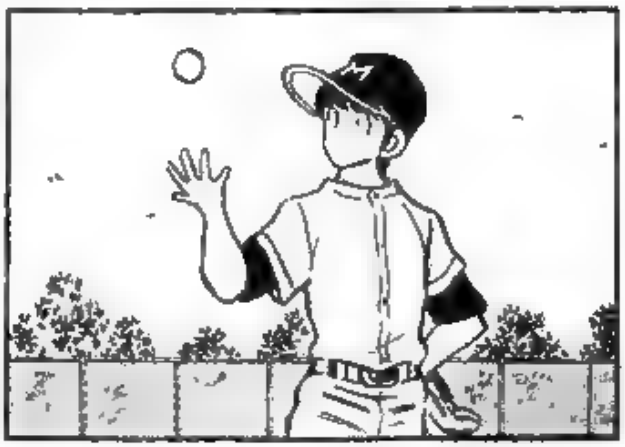

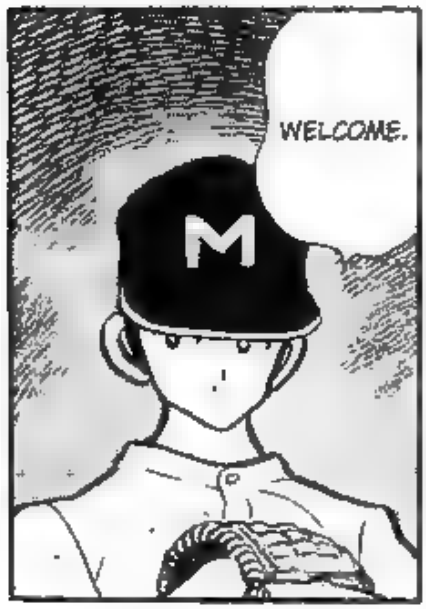

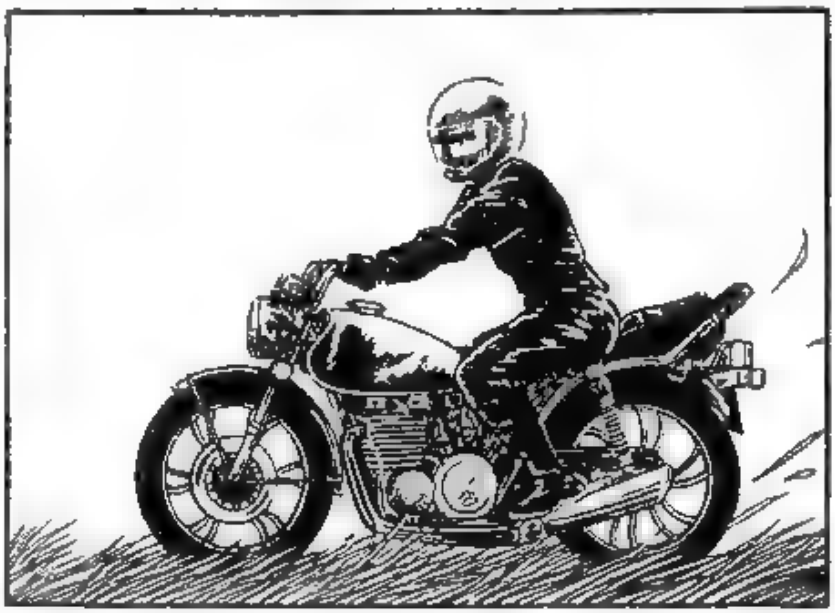

TITLE: <NATURALLY YOU'LL WIN>

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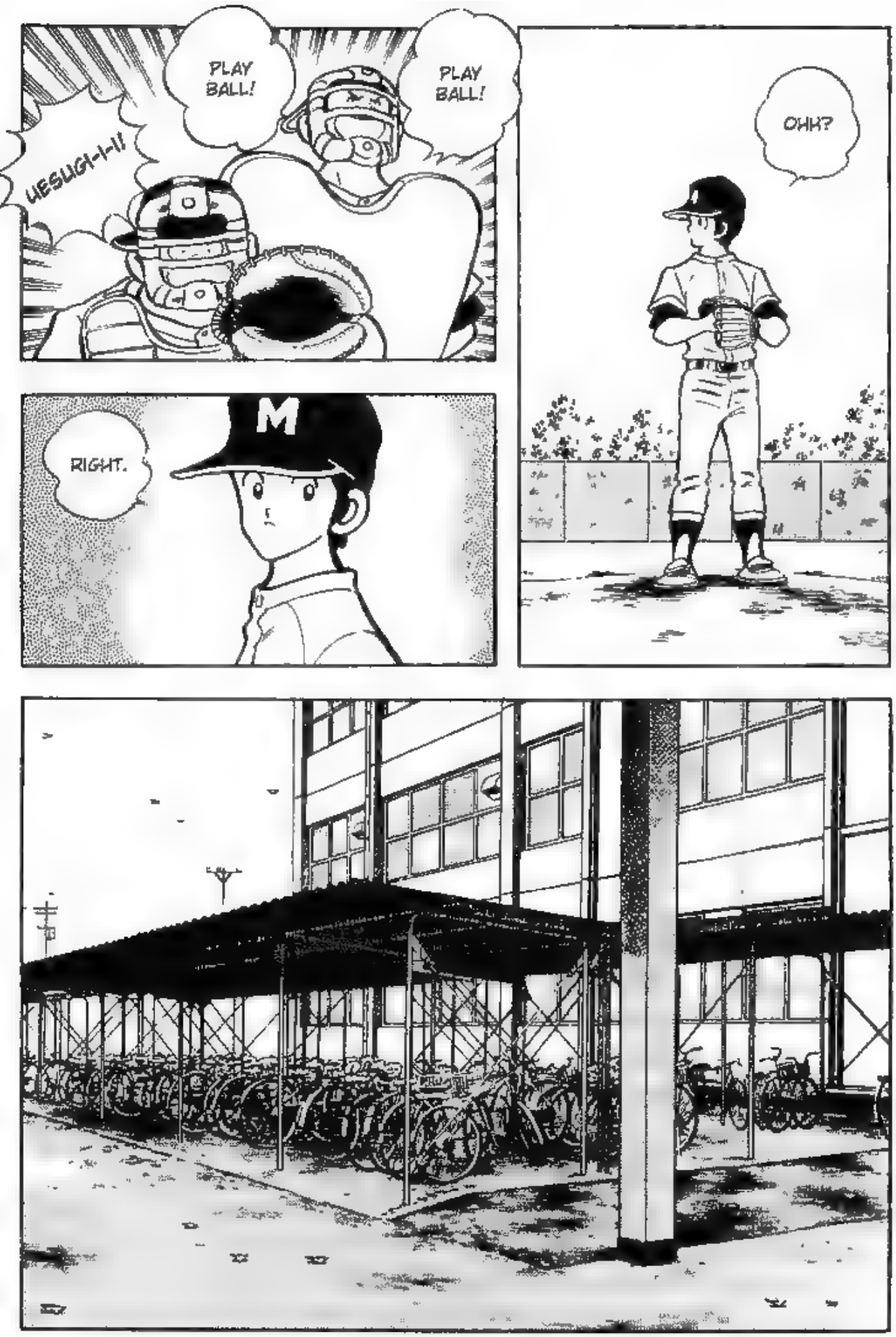
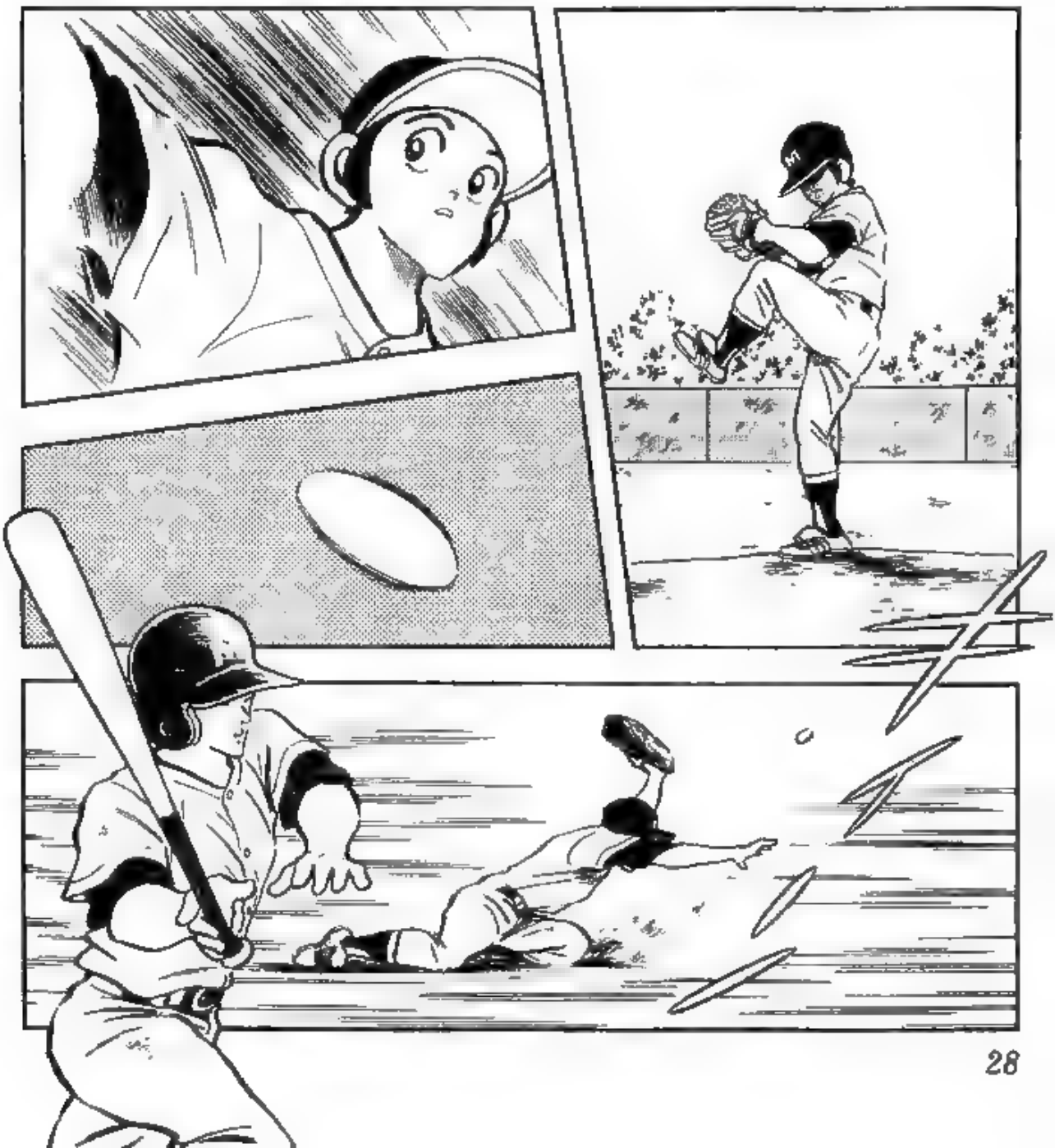

PLAY BALL!
PLAY BALL!
UESUGI-I-I!
OHH?
M
RIGHT.

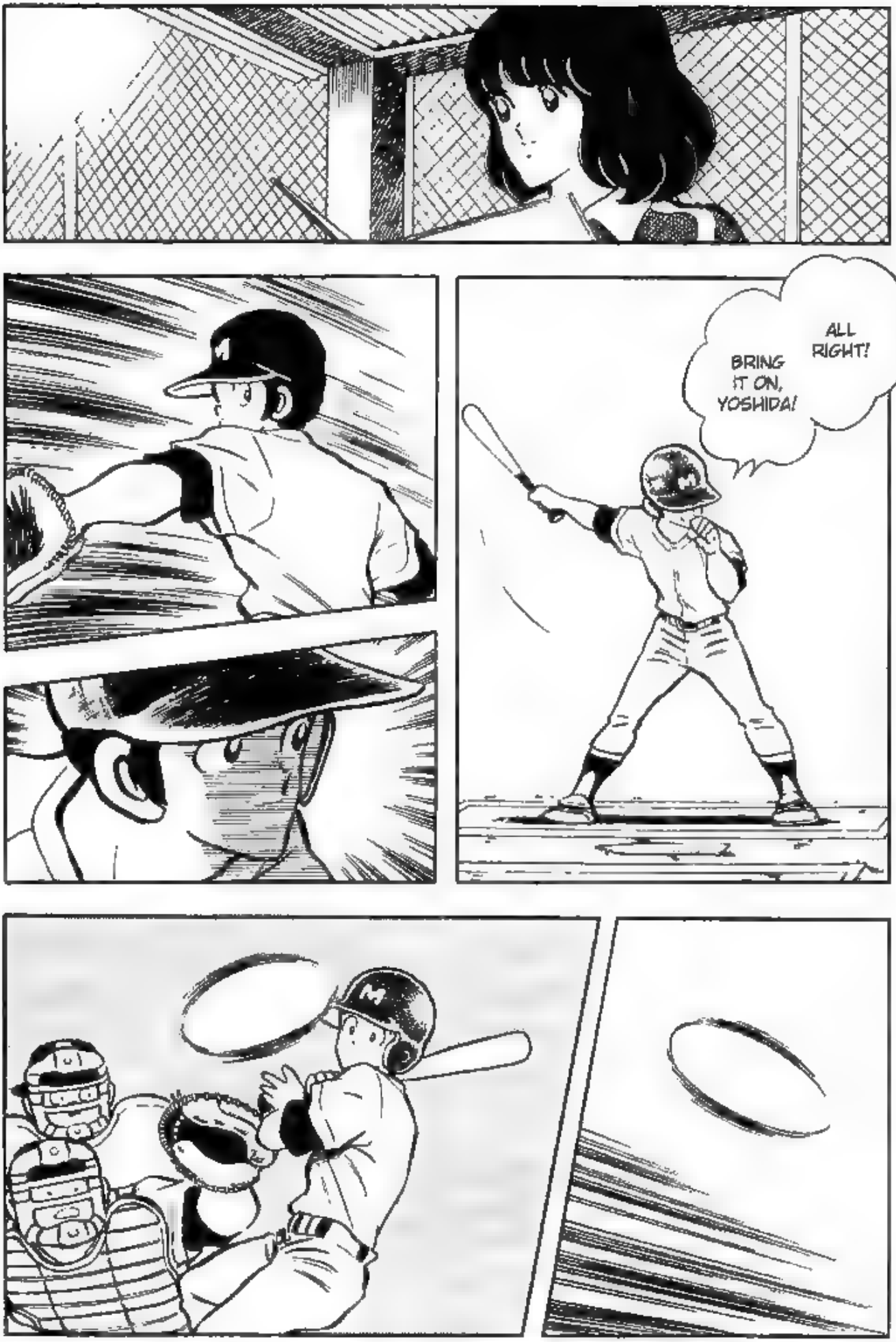
LOOKING COOL, BRO.
YO.
WHERE'S THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE?
HUH?

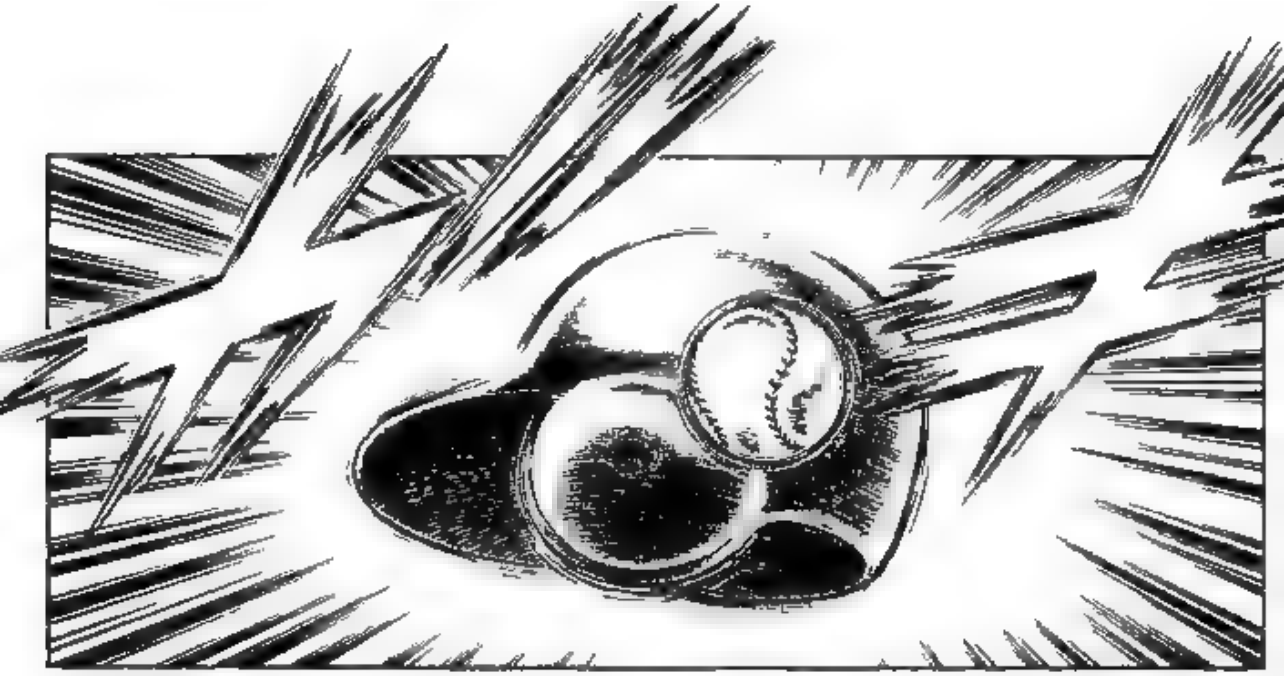
ALL THE WAY OVER AT MY SCHOOL?
AN INTER-VIEW?
IT'S AN INTERVIEW WITH A SPORTS MAGAZINE ...
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE?
IT SEEMS THEY WANT TO MAKE US TALK.
WITH WHOM?
OH...
WITH YOUR STAR ...

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
WHITE TEAM	0	0	0	0					
RED TEAM	1	0	1						

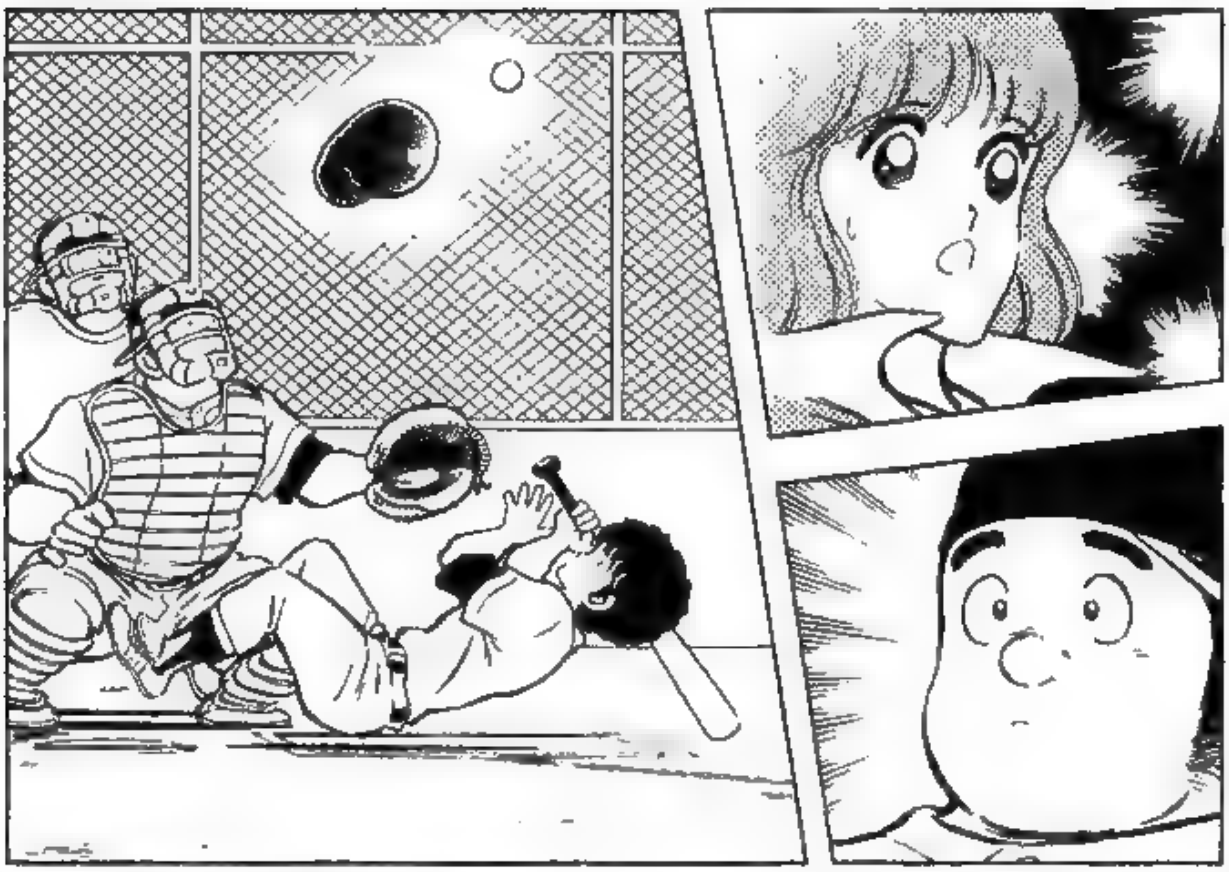


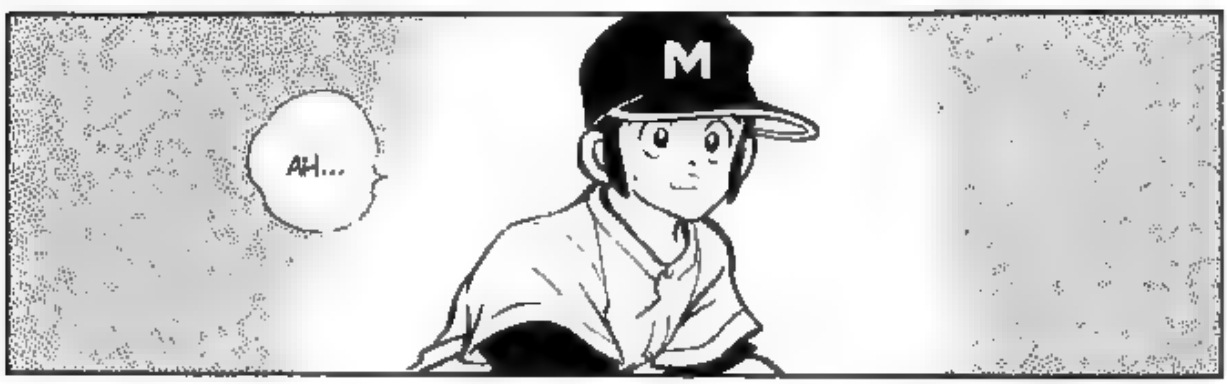
WELL, WELL ...
IF I DON'T LOOK SHARP, MY POSITION AS ACE WILL BE IN JEOPARDY, HUH?
IT'S YOUR TURN AT THE BAT
HURRY UP AND GET OVER THERE!
YES, CAPTAIN.
OUR SIDE HAS NEARLY ALL THE STARTERS.
NATURALLY YOU'LL WIN.


ALL RIGHT!
BRING IT ON, YOSHIDA!



SFX: <CLANG!>

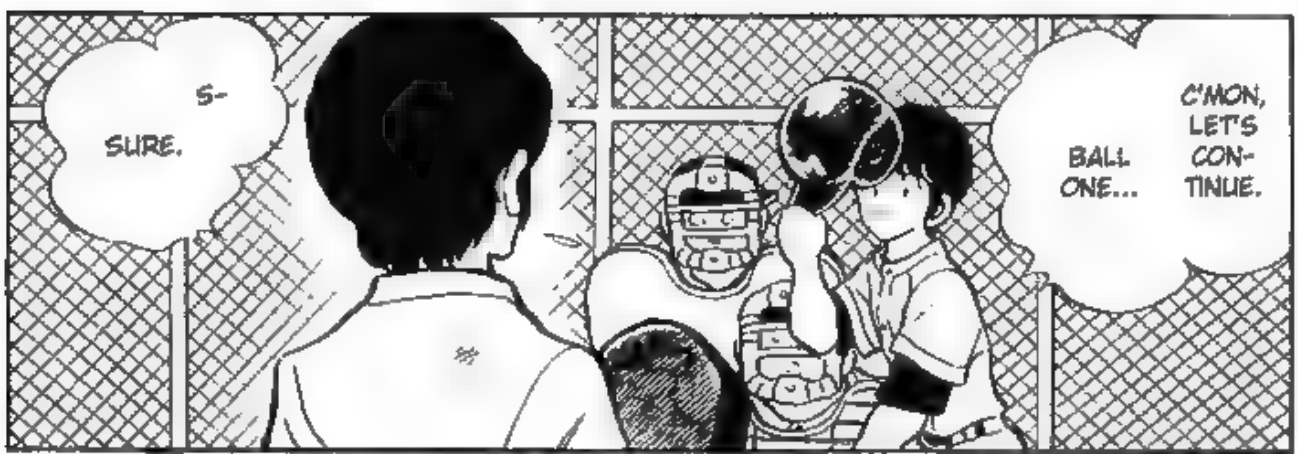




WITH MY REFLEXES, I CAN EVEN DODGE A GUNSHOT!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT !?
S-
SORRY!

I'M REALLY SORRY!
I'M SORRY.


S-
SURE.
BALL ONE...
C'MON, LET'S CON-TINUE.

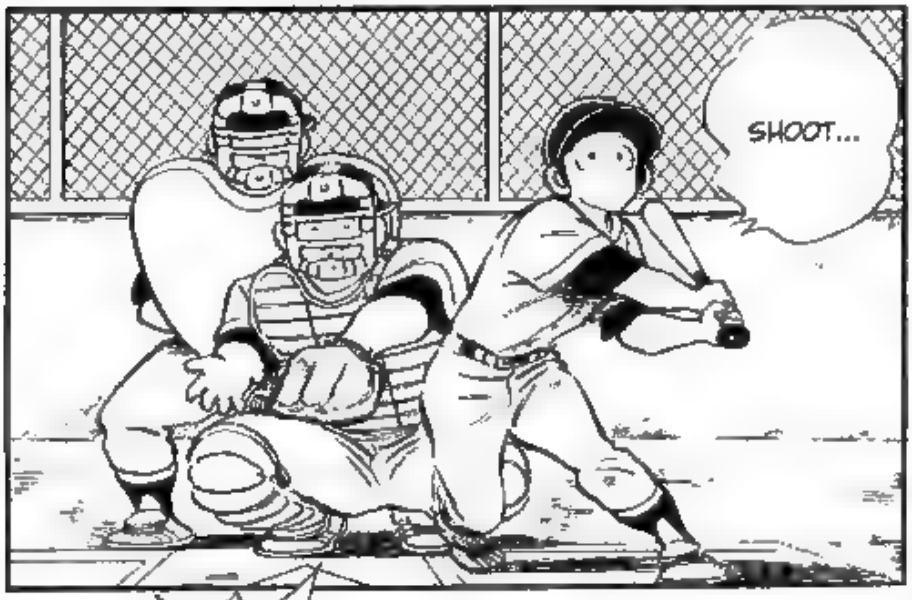
ASAKURA-SAN!

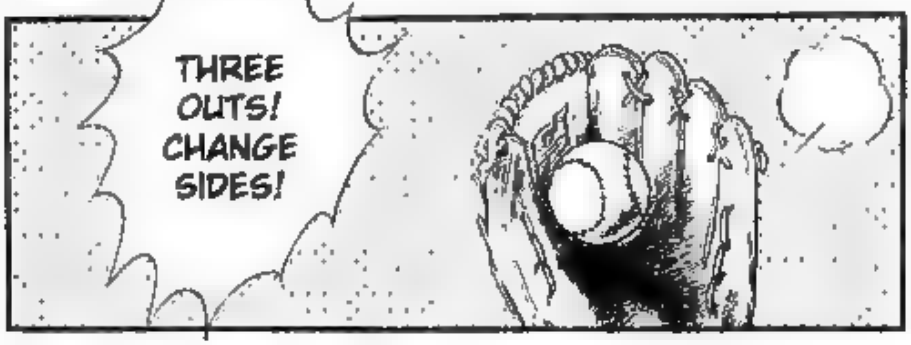
.....

Y-
YES.

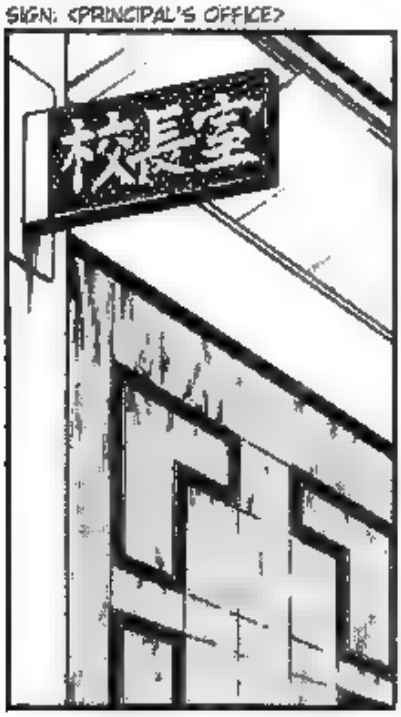
EVERYONE'S GATHERED IN THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE, SO...
PLEASE COME NOW. .

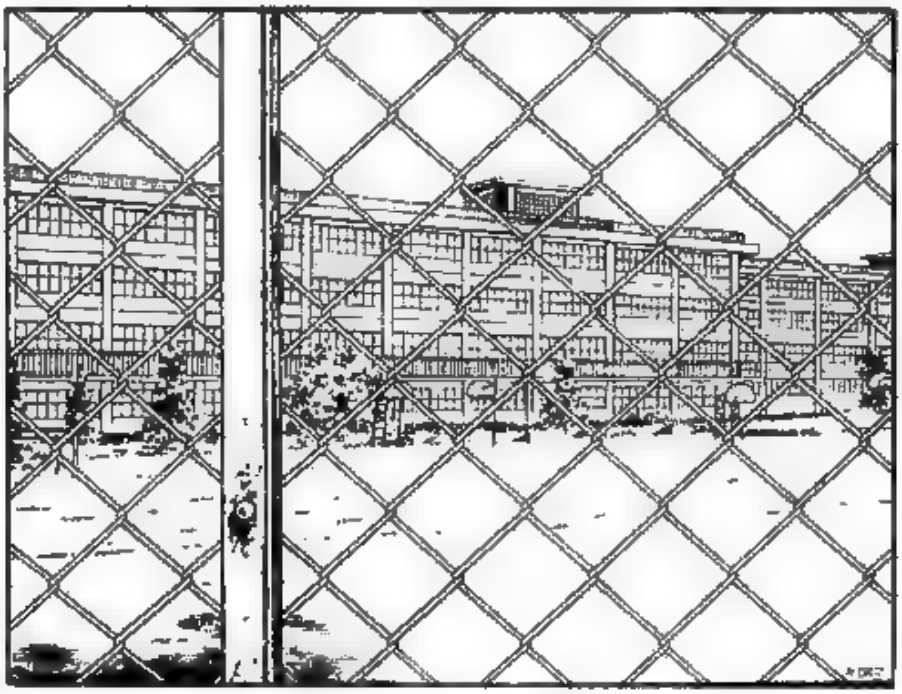
CLINK

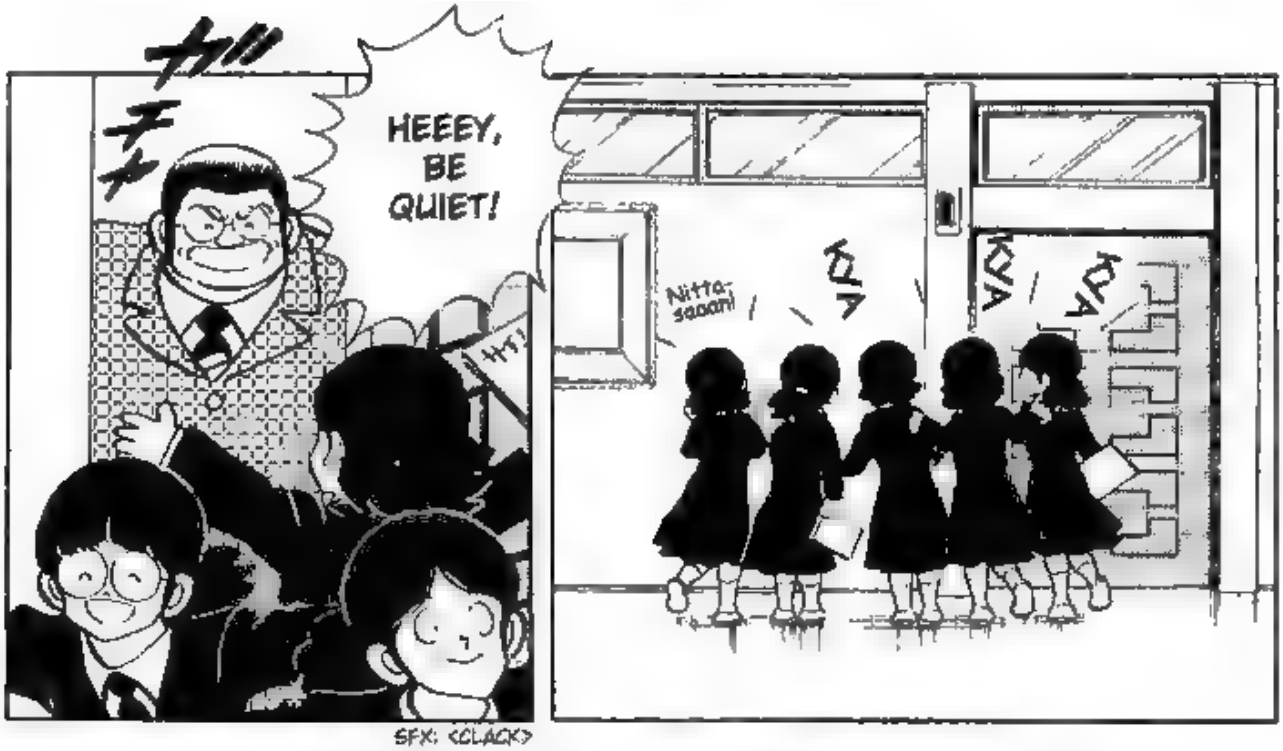

SHOOT...


THREE OUTS! CHANGE SIDES!

SIGN: <PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE>

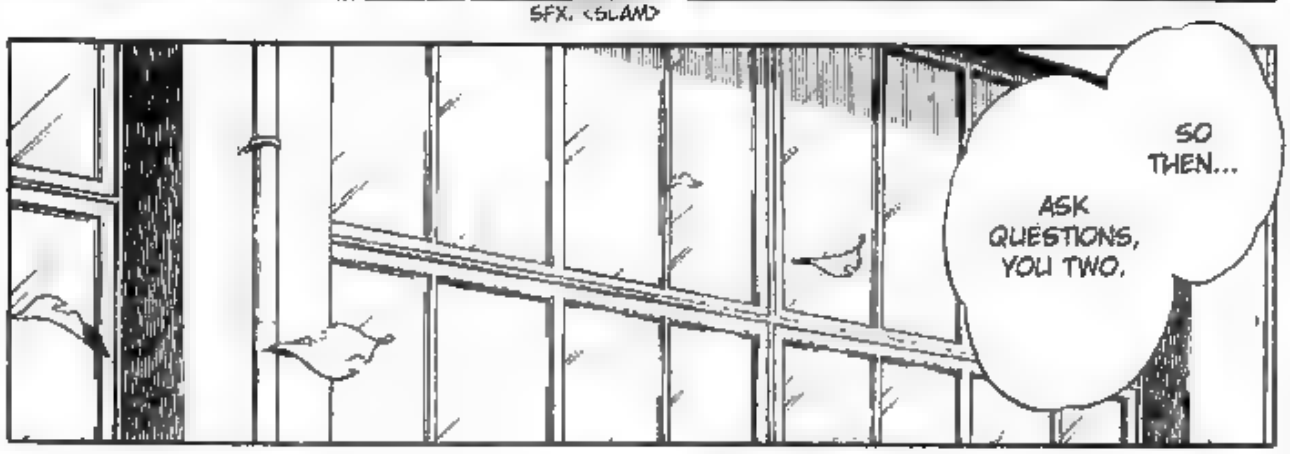






SFX: <CLACK>

SFX. <SLAM>



TEAM 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
WHITE TEAM 0 0 0 0 0 0
RED TEAM 1 0 1 1 1
SFX (C.INNNK)

SFX: <CLINK>

TEAKETTLE. <BASEBALL TEAM>

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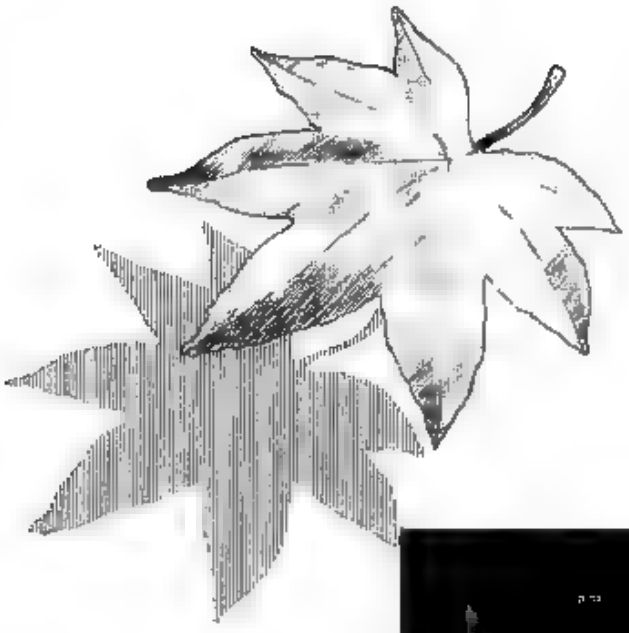
.....
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
M
M
CARELESS PITCH, CARELESS PITCH.
OH, BOY ...
M

GAME OVER!
STRIKE! BATTER OUT!
SLIP
M



Uesugi, Go Out There

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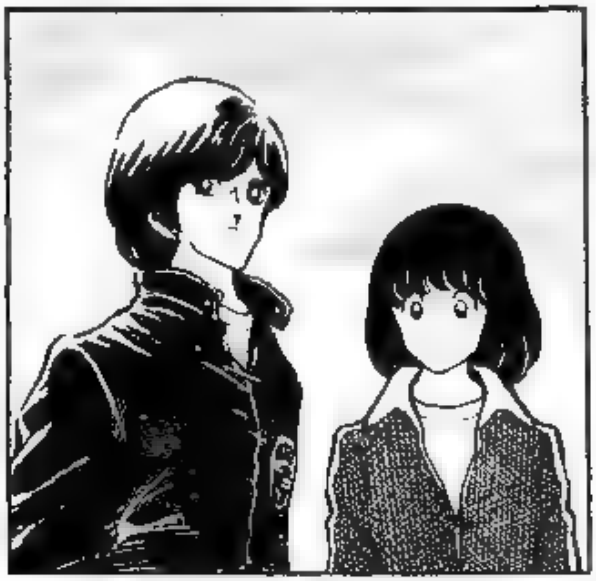
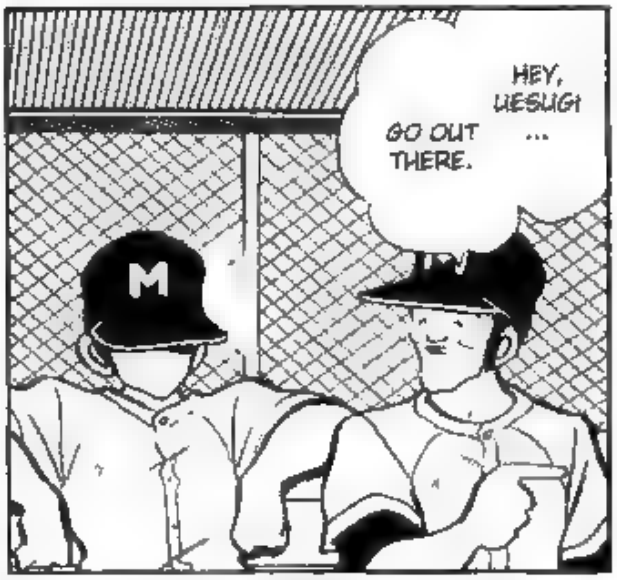
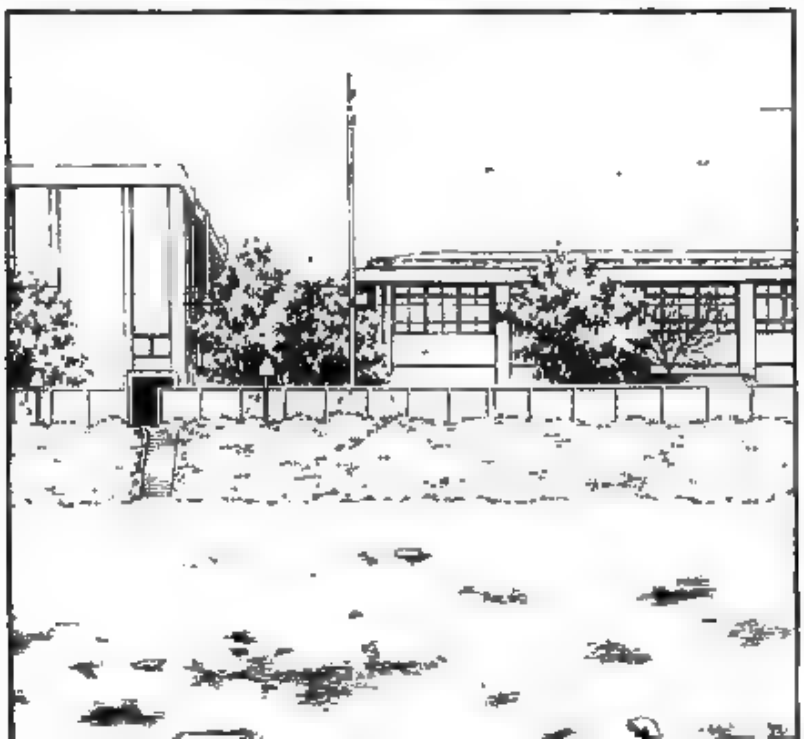
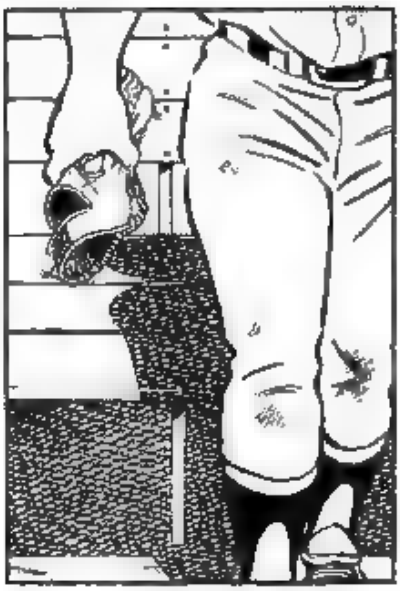
AHH...
I SEE...
IT'S THE CONCOCTION OF SOME MAGAZINE.
THE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS WORLD'S DOUBLE IDOL STAR DREAM MEETING.
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
LET'S HAVE NITTA-KUN POSE WITH A BAT.
LET'S SEE... THEN NEXT ...
GOOD.
THANKS, THANKS.
WE SHOULD GET HIM TO REALLY HIT ONE, HUH?
I MEAN ...
COULD I GET SOME-ONE TO PITCH?
I'M SORRY ...




HEY, UESUGI ...
GO OUT THERE.

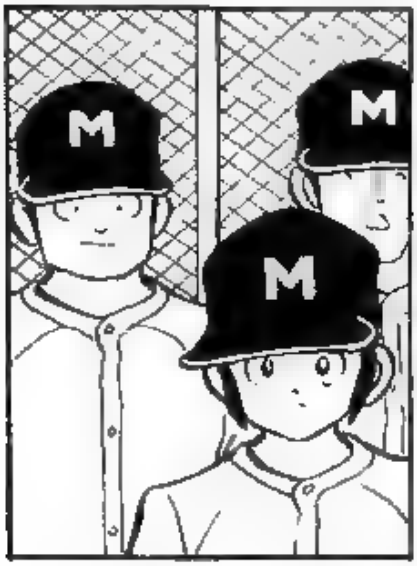


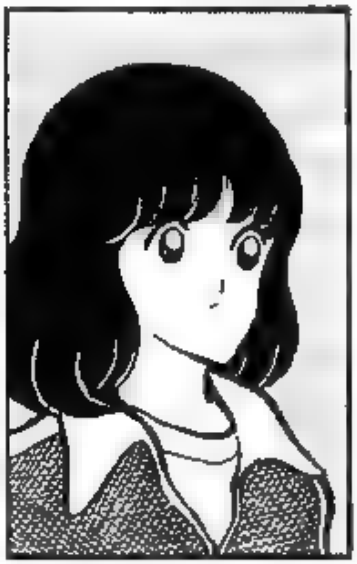


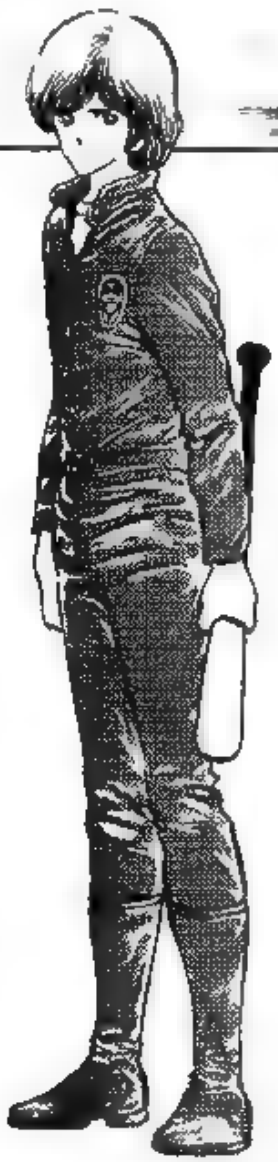
AS LONG AS WE FAIL TO DEFEAT HIM, THERE WON'T BE A KOUSHIEN FOR US NEXT YEAR EITHER!!
YOU KNOW IT. RIGHT, UESUGI?

M

M


M
M
M

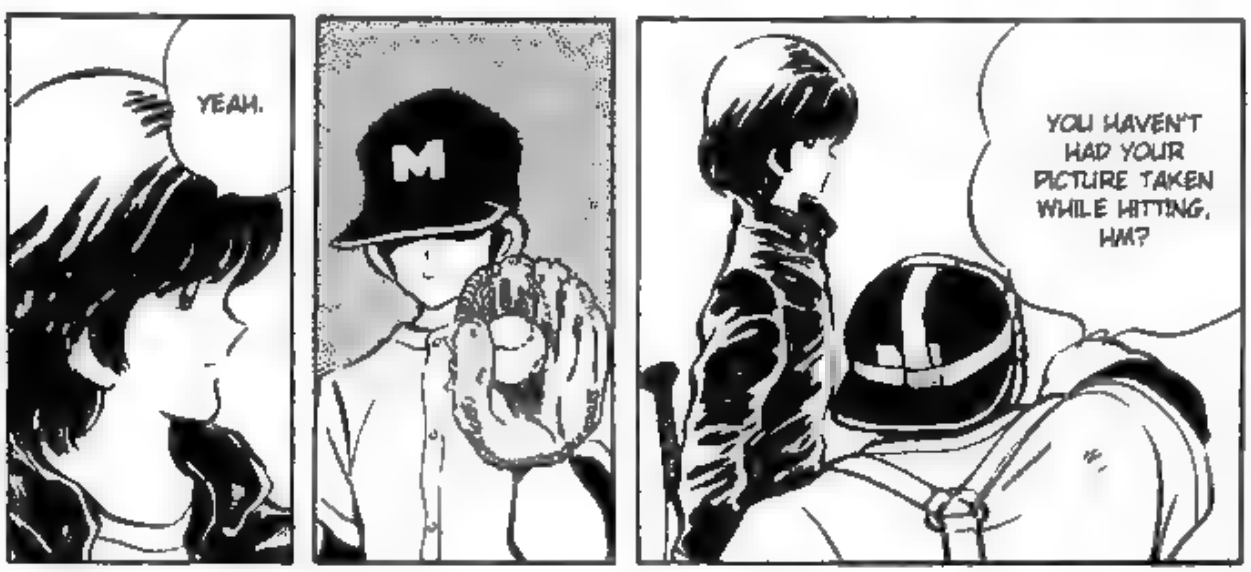




OKAAAY.
PLEASE GO AHEAD, THEN.
CRUNCH!

WHAM

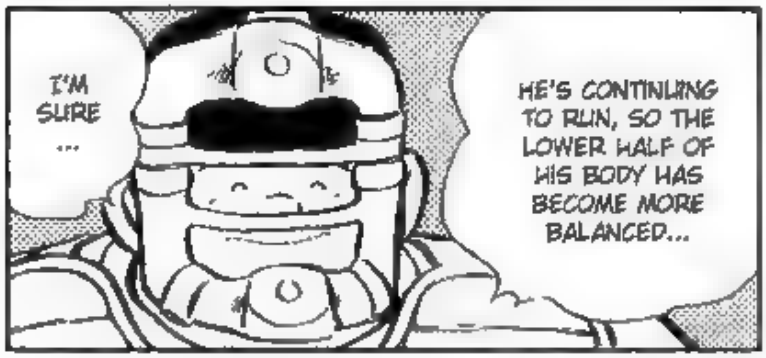
?

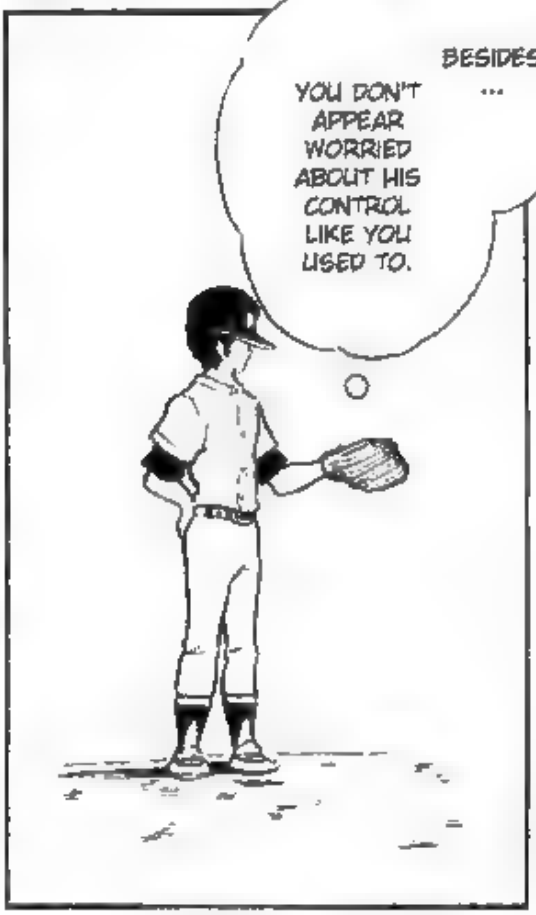

YEAH.
YOU HAVEN'T HAD YOUR PICTURE TAKEN WHILE HITTING, HM?

M
DID IT MISS THE MARK?
NO...
SFX: <WHAAAM>

I CAN'T... NOT WITH THIS GET-UP.
NO...

AH... HERE.


I'M SURE ...
HE'S CONTINUING TO RUN, SO THE LOWER HALF OF HIS BODY HAS BECOME MORE BALANCED...


BESIDES ...
YOU DON'T APPEAR WORRIED ABOUT HIS CONTROL LIKE YOU USED TO.

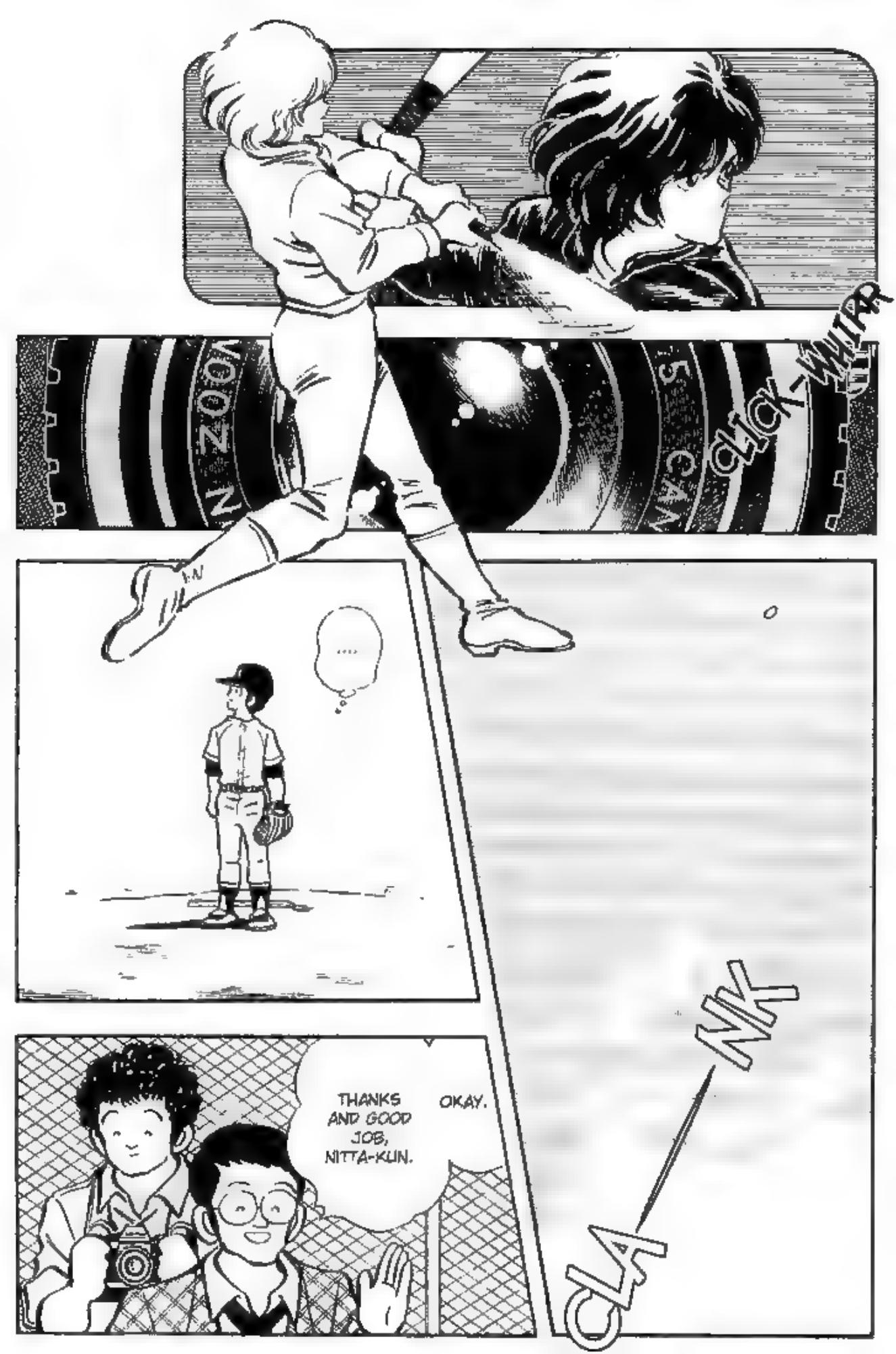
....

UMM...
OH, MAN ...

THAT'S TWO STRIKES, WESUGI-KUN.

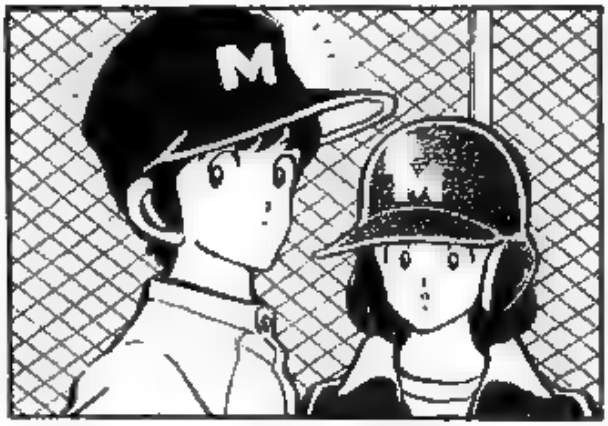
SFX: <CLANK>

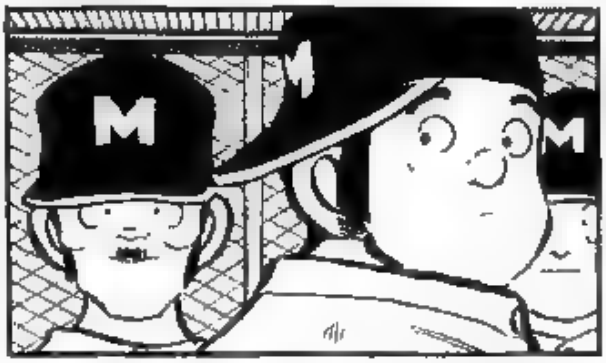
AH...
M
I'M SORRY ...
ONCE MORE, PLEASE.
M
HMMM.


....
THANKS AND GOOD JOB, NITTA-KUN.
OKAY.
CLANK

AH...
WAS THAT FINE?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
AH, YOU, TOO.
SURE ENOUGH, THAT SPOT IS NITTA'S...
HMM, HMM.
YUP, I KNEW IT!!
NITTA-SAN!
. . . .
IT'S REALLY WHY HE GOT A HIT... RIGHT!?
IT'S RIGHT AFTER HE FINISHED PITCHING A GAME, SO...
THAT'S TRUE.
ARE THEY CUTE?
WHAT'S WITH THOSE EYES?

COULD I GET YOU TO ALLOW ME A CHANCE, TOO?



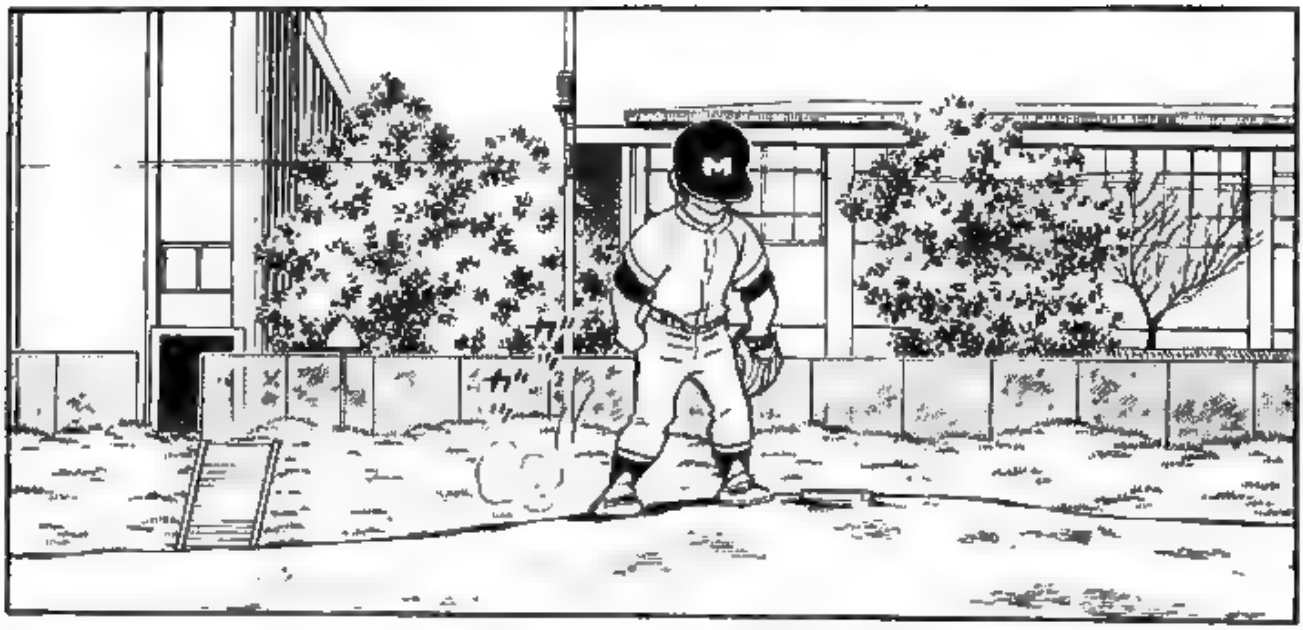


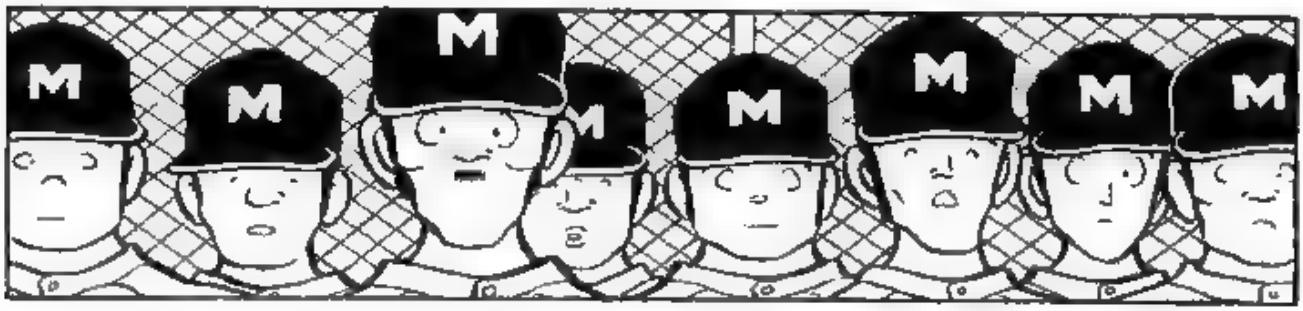
HEY...

I'M GOING TO PITCH WITHOUT LETTING HIM HIT IT, OF COURSE.

THEY DON'T NEED ANY MORE PICTURES OF HIM HITTING.
HOW SILLY.

THIS TIME?
HUH?
THIS TIME, I'LL...
OH, I'LL THROW COMPLETELY SERIOUSLY.
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO...?
YOU, WHO WERE WHACKED AROUND BY MY TEAM...
IN ANY CASE, HE WAS LETTING YOU SAVE FACE...
IT'S 'CAUSE YOSHIDA IS YOUR FAN...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
IS THAT OKAY, NITTA-SAN?
SURE.

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M
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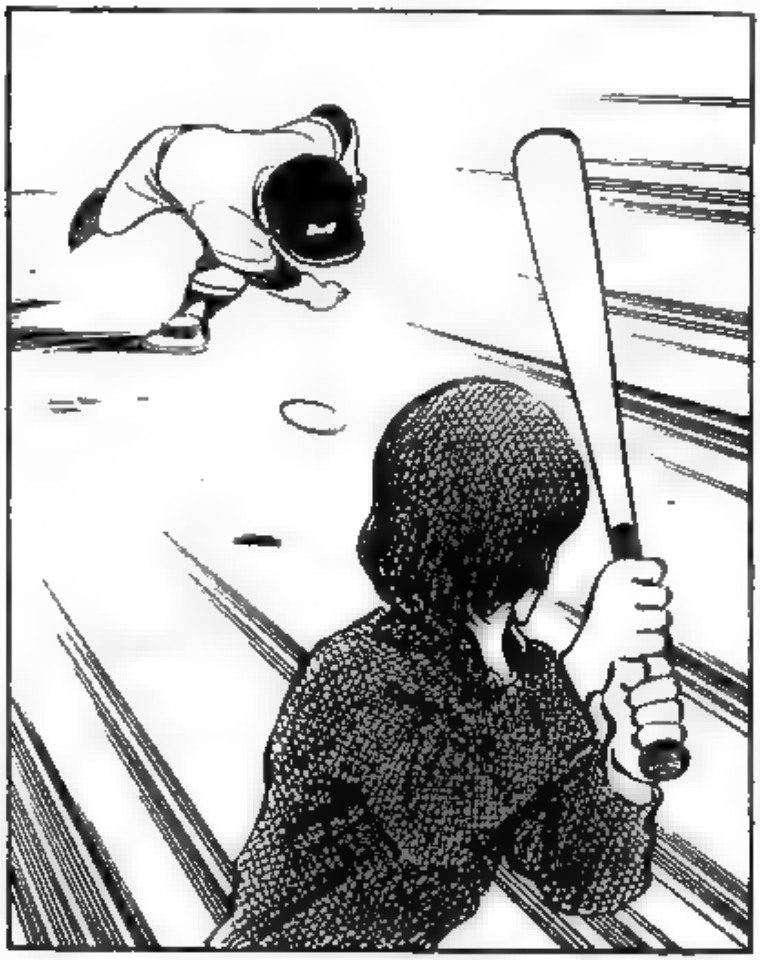

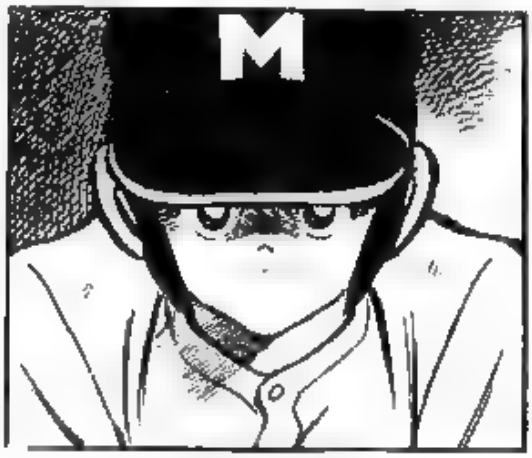
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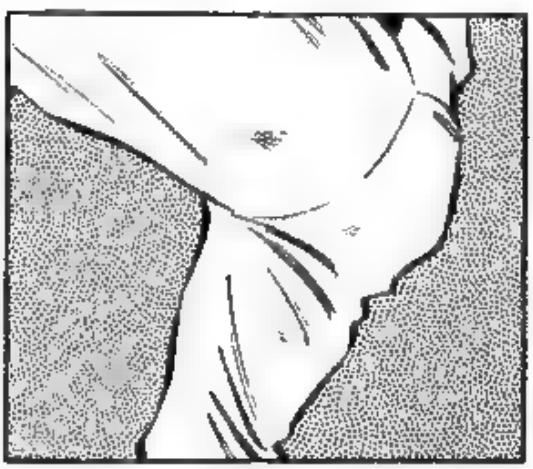

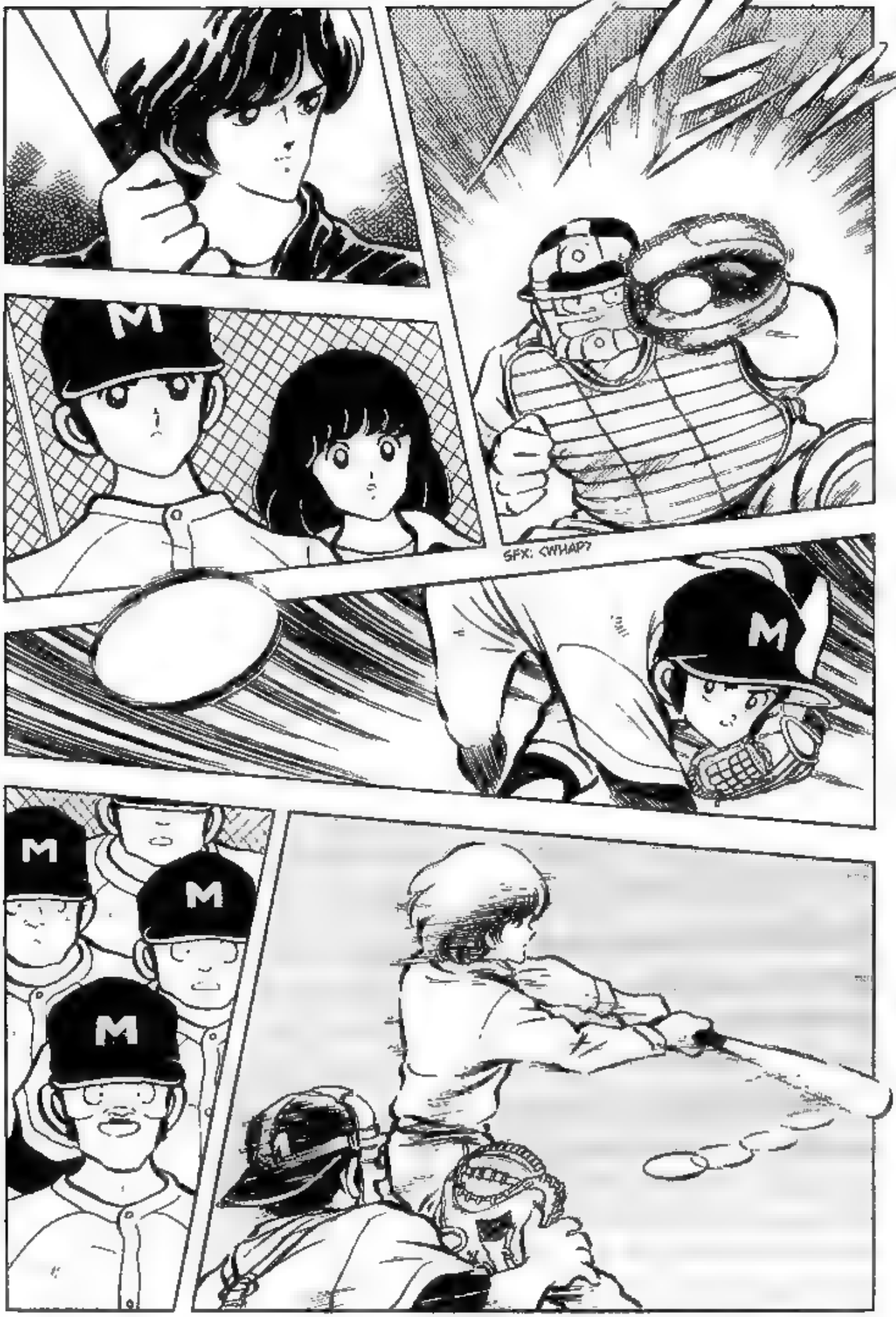
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SFX: <WHAP?
M
M
M
M

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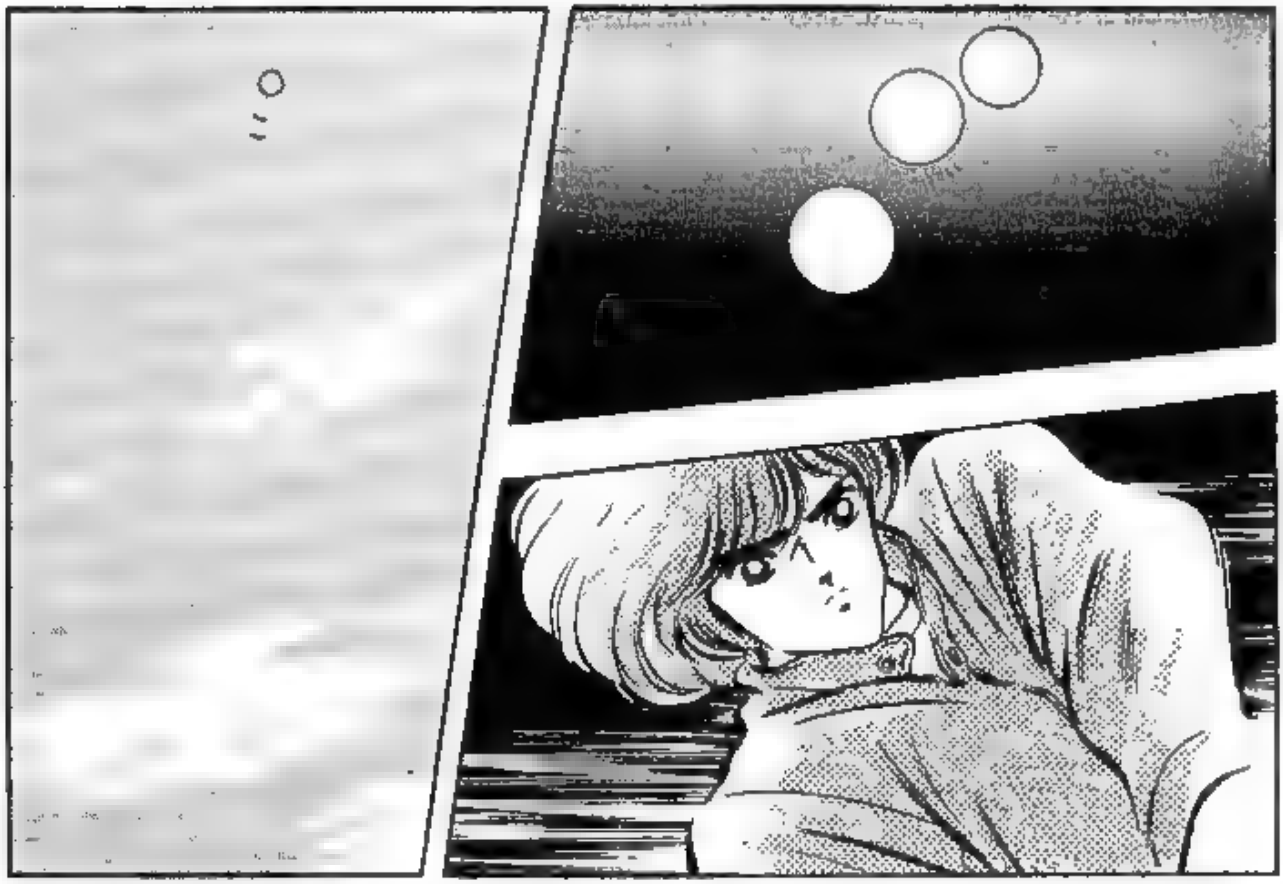
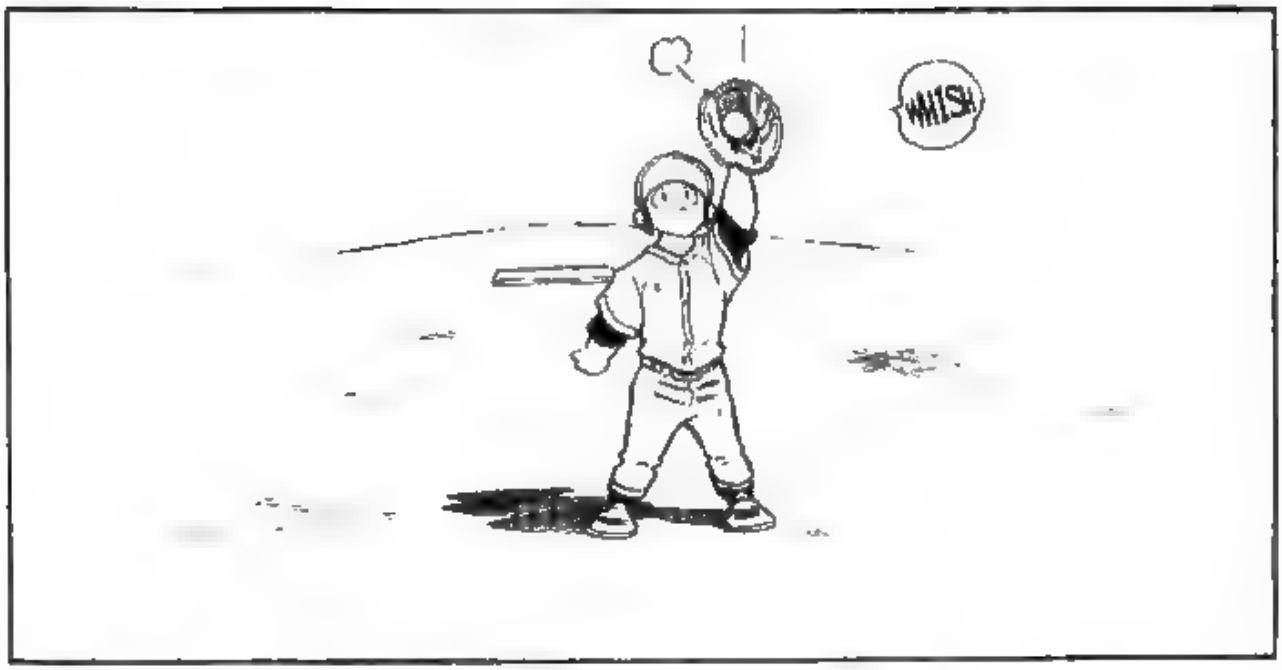
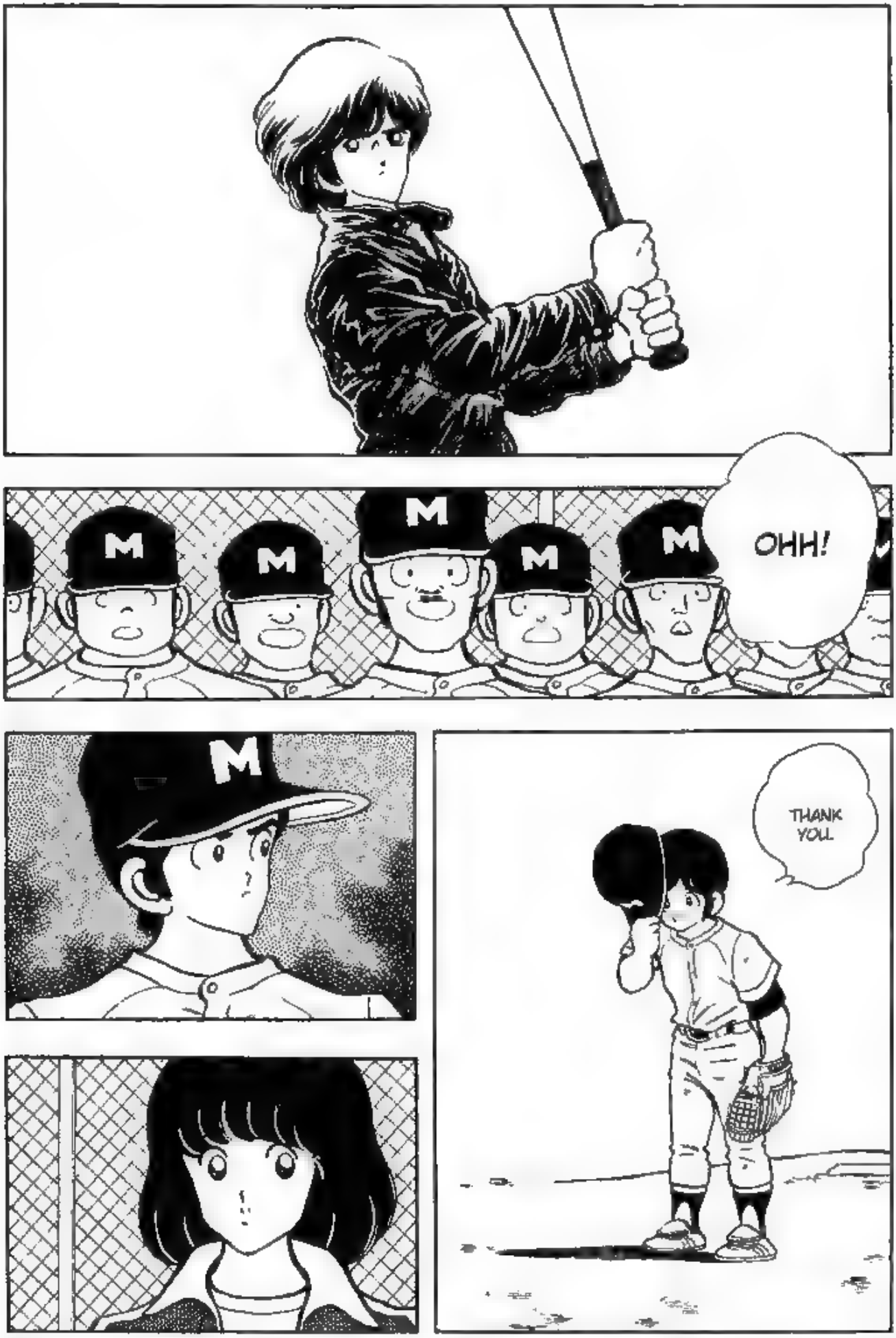




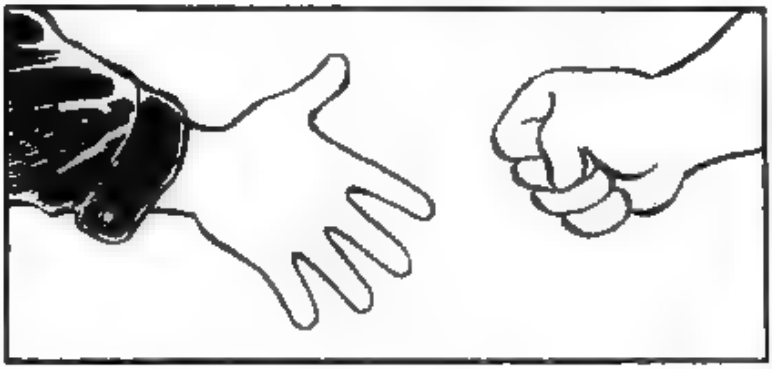
What Did You Come For?

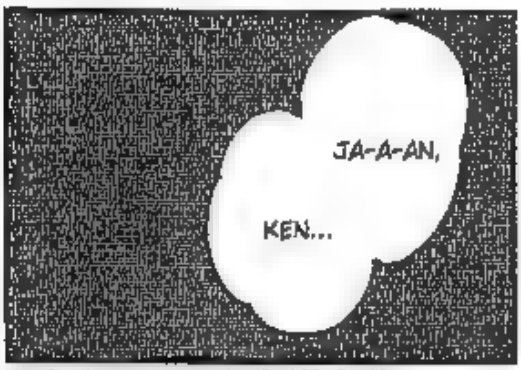

OHH!
THANK YOU.

<NOTE: A PITCH WITH THE BALL PLACED BETWEEN THE INDEX AND MIDDLE FINGERS SO THAT THE BALL TAKES A SHARP DIP NEAR HOME PLATE.>

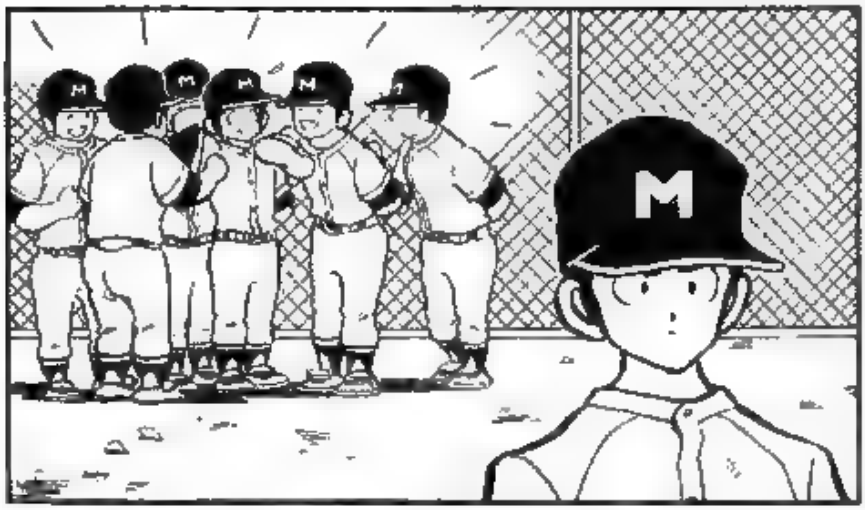
<*TRANSLATION NOTE: UNTRANSLATABLE, SINCE THIS IS A KANJI PUN. TATSUYA "SAYS" <REISEI> BUT IT'S NOT THE KANJI CHARACTERS FOR "CALMNESS" HE GETS THE <REI> CHARACTER RIGHT, BUT SUBSTITUTES THE NORMAL <SEI> = 'QUIET/PEACE' WITH A <SEI> CHARACTER THAT MEANS "ENERGY" OR "MILITARY STRENGTH." MINAMI CORRECTS HIM BY IDENTIFYING THE INCORRECT KANJI IN HIS SPEECH BUBBLE WITH A POINTER.>

M
AH, NITTA-KUN.
ONE LAST PICTURE OF YOU SHAKING HANDS WITH ASAKURA-SAN...
CLICK-WHIR
OKAY ... THANKS.
BYE.
HAVING YOU COME ALL THIS WAY...
SAME TO YOU.
GOOD JOB.





NOTE <ROCK-SCISSORS-PAPER GAME>



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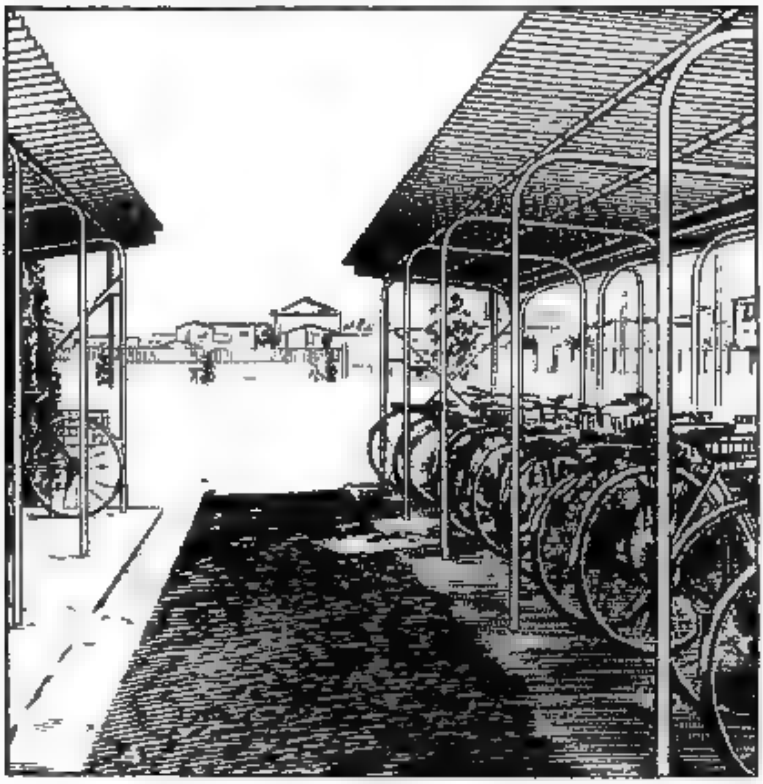
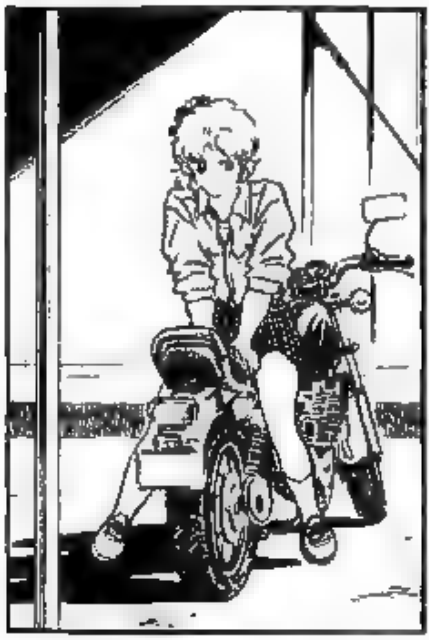
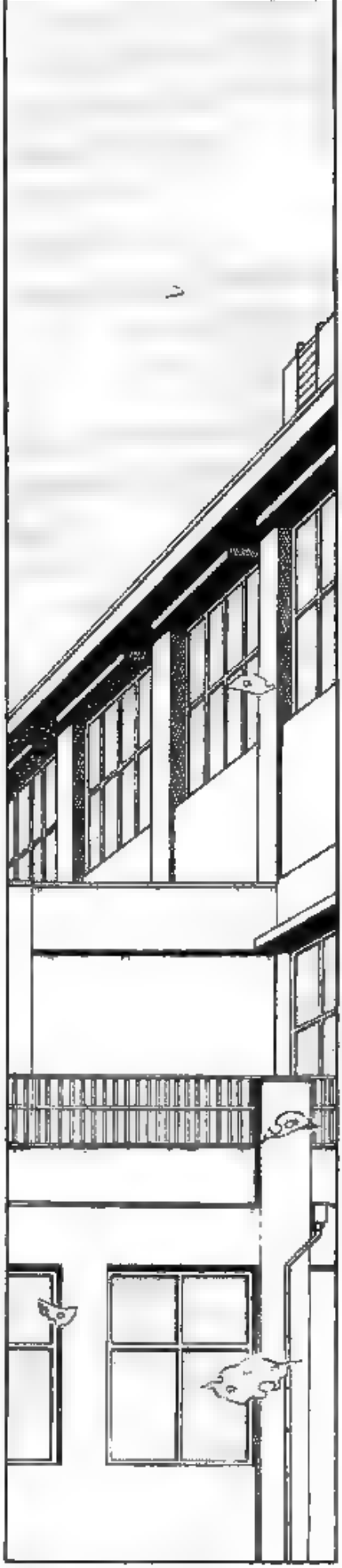
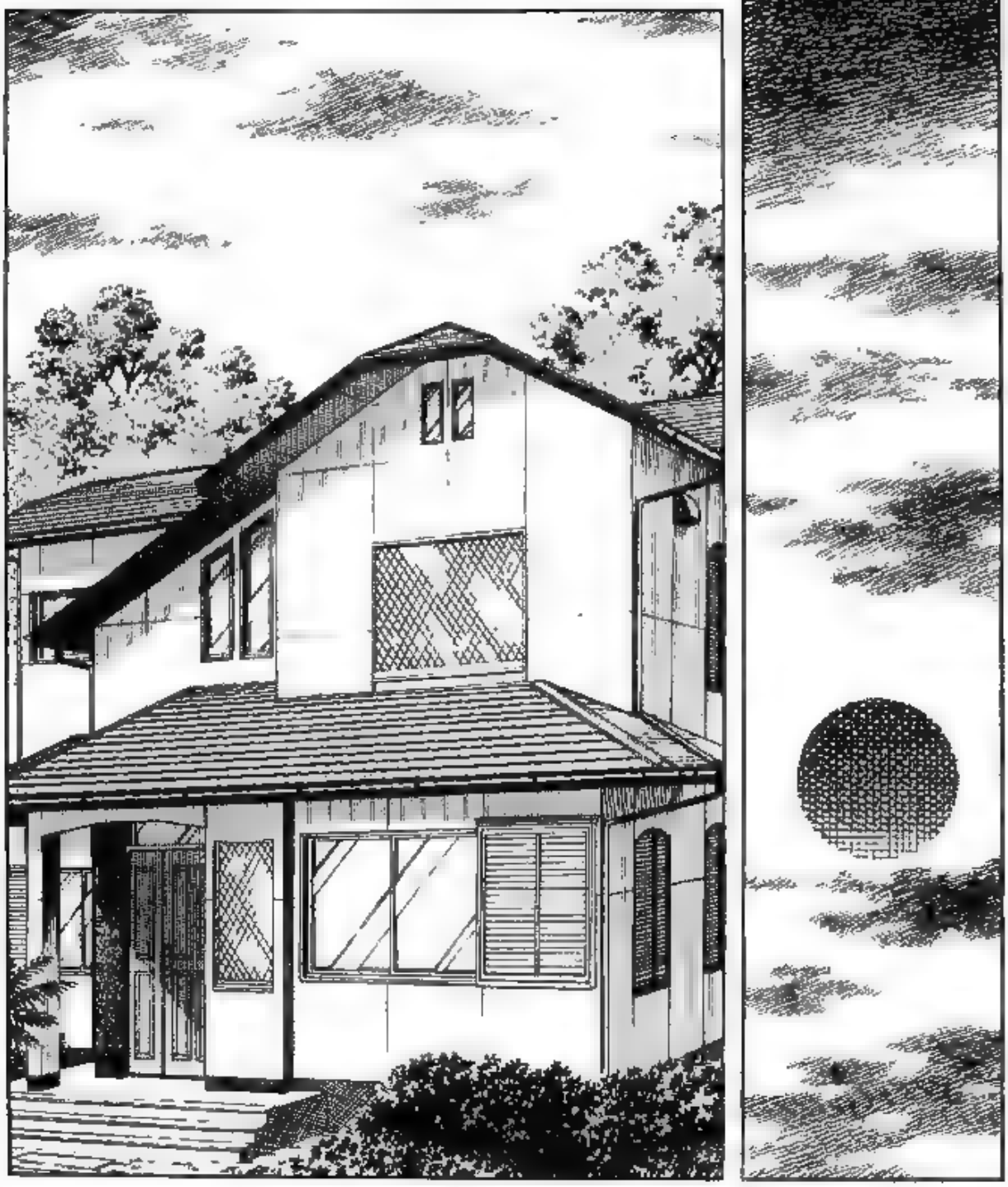






WHAT DID YOU COME FOR?
THAT'S MY LINE!
VROOM
WHAT WAS HIS REASON FOR COMING?
MY BROTHER, WHO HATES DOING INTERVIEWS ...



Nitta

WELCOME BACK.
I'M HO-O-OME.
HEY, ONIICHAN!
AH... I SEE.
YUKA-CHAN, YOU HAD A CAL... FROM KOSAKA-KUN.
TODAY IS PORK.
YES-TERDAY WAS BEEF.
IS IT CURRY AGAIN?
OH... YUCK, MAMA.
I KNEW IT!
IT'S 'CAUSE YOU WERE BEING INTER-VIEWED WITH ASAKURA MINAMI, RIGHT?
JUST COME OUT AND SAY SO.
IF YOU WANNA MAKE ME RUN AWAY FROM HOME. .

YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE OTHER GUYS, HUH?
SEDUCED BY A FACE AND A LEOTARD, AREN'T YOU?
You lech
I'M CHANGING CLOTHES, SO DON'T PEEK.
SLAM
AN ANNOYING CHATTER-BOX... THAT'S YOU...
IT'S JUST AS I THOUGHT.
O-HO.
HUMPH.
YOU HAVE THIS WEIRD JEALOUSY EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE MY KID SISTER!
DUMMY.
THE ACE OF MEISEI'S BASEBALL TEAM...
WHO?
SHE HAS HERSELF A PROPER BOYFRIEND.

HUH!?
THAT FRECKLE-FACED GUY!?
CLACK
THAT'S RIGHT!
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHY COULDN'T YOU HIT A PITCH FROM A GUY LIKE THAT!?
FRECKLED ..?
HUH?
NO. HE'S NOT THE ACE.
NO...
OOOH? YOU WERE WATCHING?

GRRR...
WELL ...
THAT'S TRUE.
IT WAS DONE BY A PITCHER WHO'S NOT EVEN THE ACE?
THEN, WHAT ...
SHOULDN'T YOU BE CALLING YOUR BOYFRIEND?
YOU DON'T REALLY SEEM UNNECES-SARILY WORRIED...
.....
WE BROKE UP ALREADY ...
YEAH, IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY.
YOU HAD A CALL, DIDN'T YOU?

STRAIGHT ...
I'VE NEVER REALLY KNOWN YOU TO GO TWO MONTHS...
AGAIN, HUH...
THAT THE GUY WHO'S THE CLOSEST TO ME, LOOKS SO COOL, HM?
IT'S MY BAD LUCK...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I'LL GIVE UP, TOO...
IF YOU HURRY AND GET YOURSELF A GIRLFRIEND, ONIICHAN ...
I SEE YOU, ONIICHAN, BEFORE I LEAVE AND AFTER I COME HOME, SO NO MATTER WHAT...
ALL THE GUYS WHO ARE AROUND BETWEEN THEN SEEM BORING.
WELL...
NOW WHO ON EARTH WOULD THAT BE?
THE ONE WHO HAS ALWAYS GOTTEN IN THE WAY OF A CERTAIN SOMEONE'S DATES...

EH?
SAY...
WHITE CLINIKA
OOK
THE SONG OF AFRICA
WEEKLY
GOOD-BYE
PSSST
ekube
SPOT LIGHT
PURE Shampo
WHAT KIND OF GUY IS HE?
ASAKURA MINAMI'S BOY-FRIEND . .
IS HE AN AWESOME PITCHER?
IS HE A COOL GUY?
HE HASN'T MADE THE MISTAKE OF WORRYING ABOUT PLAYING ME.
IN ANY CASE..
HMM...

OOH
..
HMMM.
WORRIED ABOUT PLAYING... HMM...
OOH...

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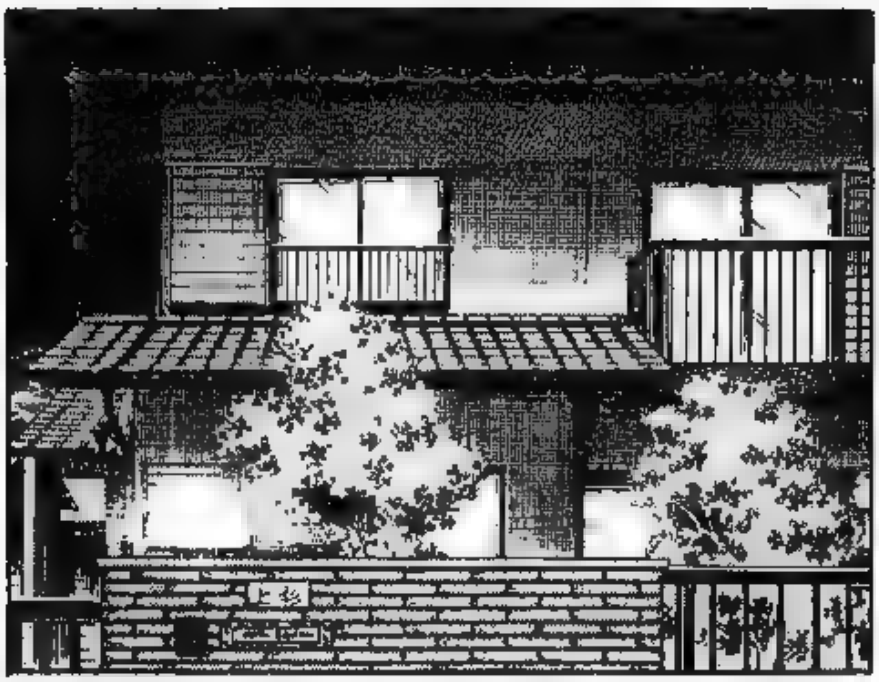
SFX: CRASH!



SNIFFLE
IT'S 'CAUSE YOU GET OUT OF THE BATH AND LIE AROUND ALL THE TIME...
HEY, HEY.
AHH...
CHOO!
MMBL ...
GO TO BED THIS INSTANT!
AHH...
CHOO!
AH
AH

Nothing Really

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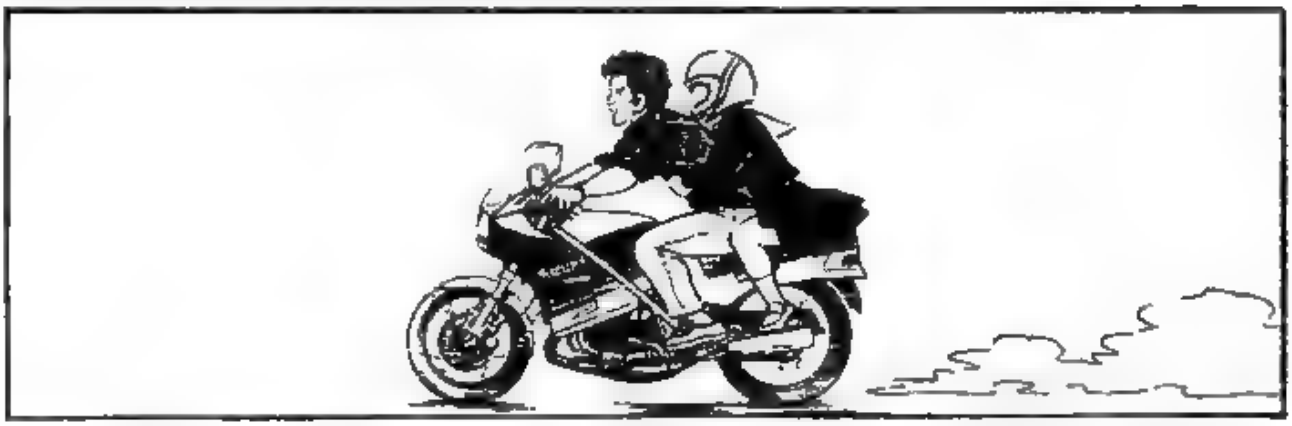
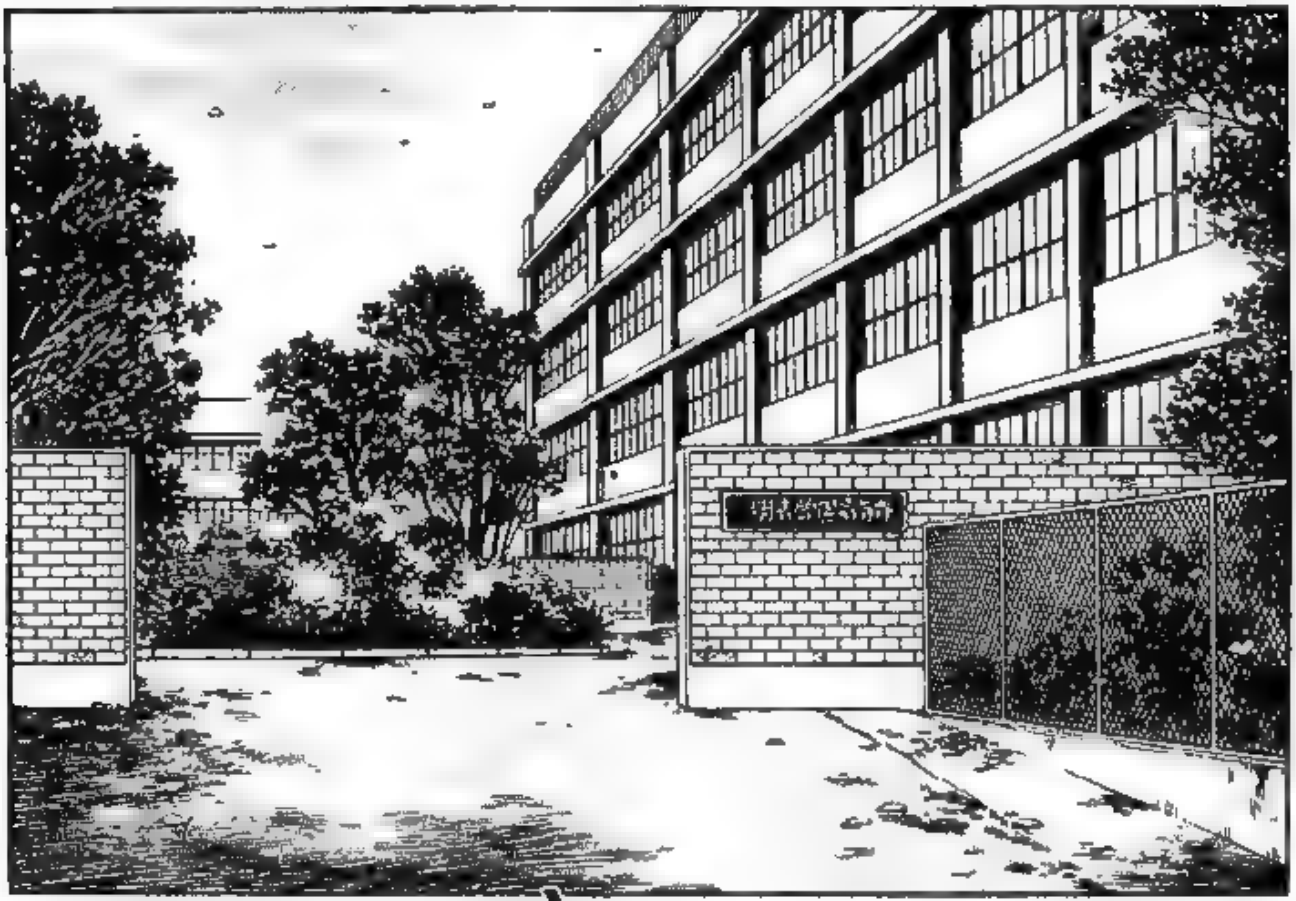
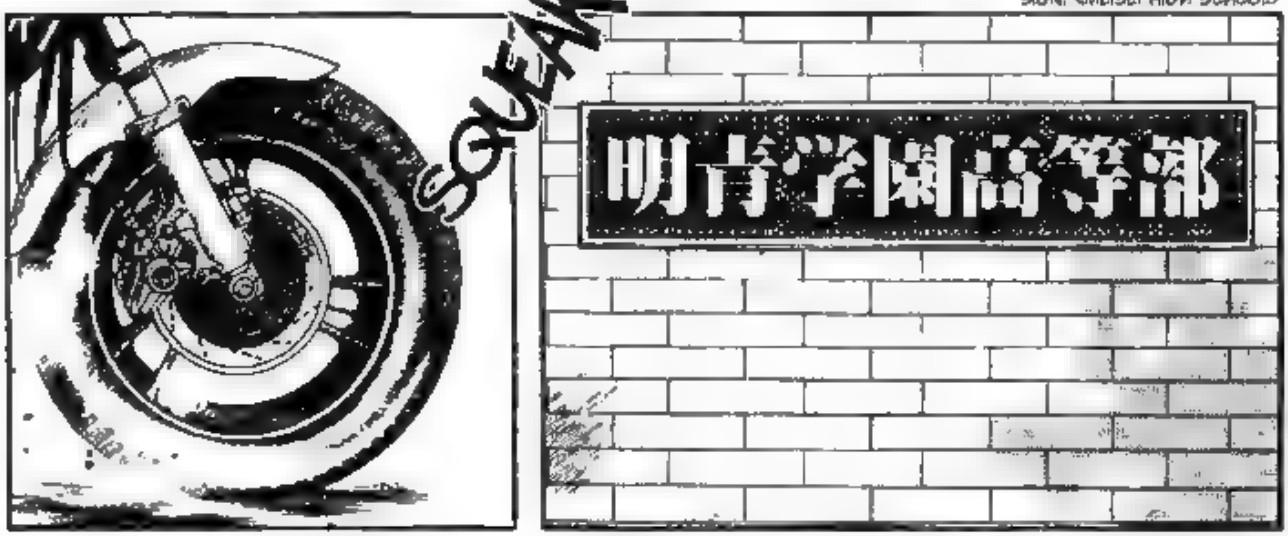




SIGN: <MEISEI HIGH SCHOOL>

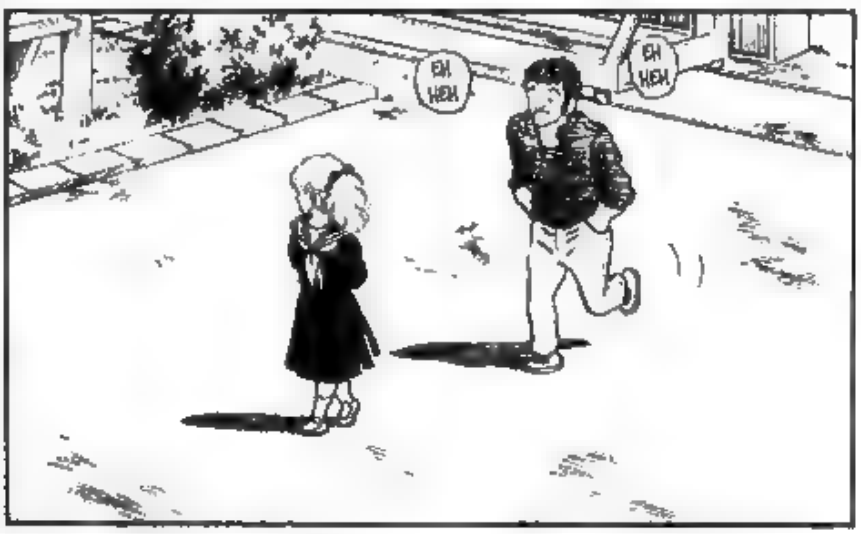


HUH?
YOU CAN GO NOW.
THANK YOU.

WE'RE HERE, YUKA-CHAN.

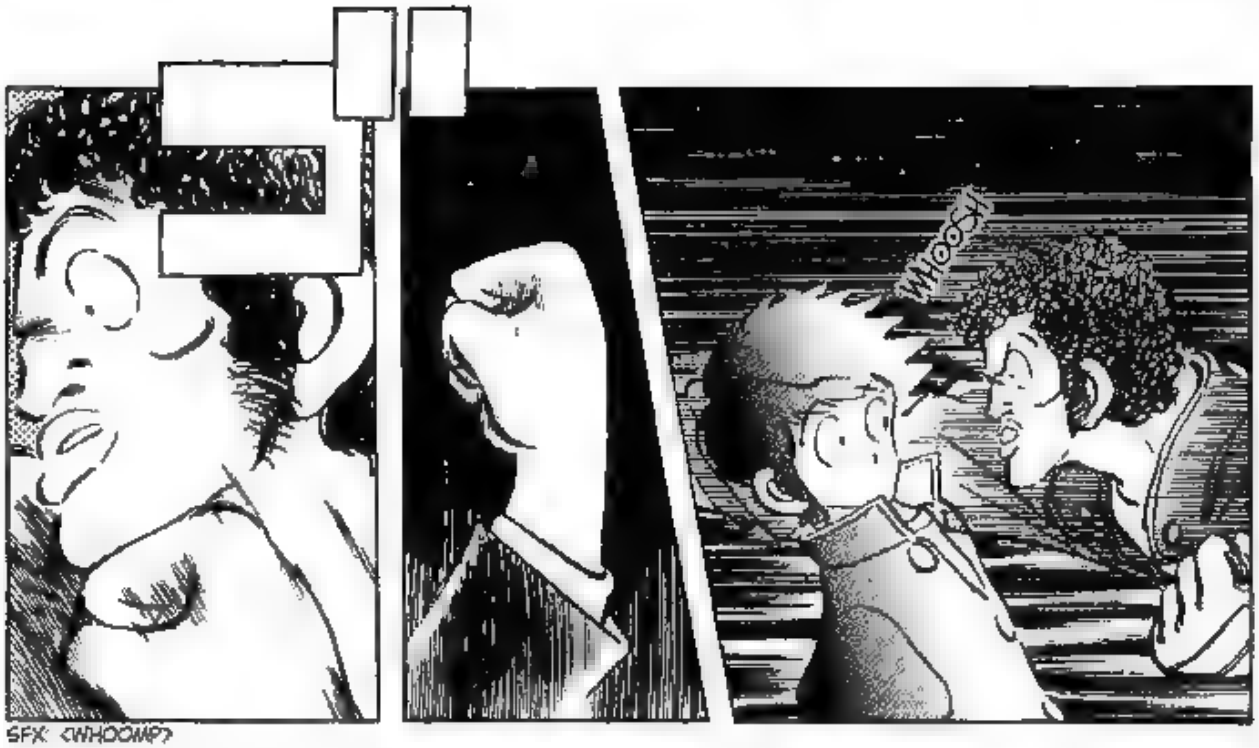
AH...
THANKS.

LET ME COME WITH YOU, 'KAY?
AWW ...
THAT'S COLD.

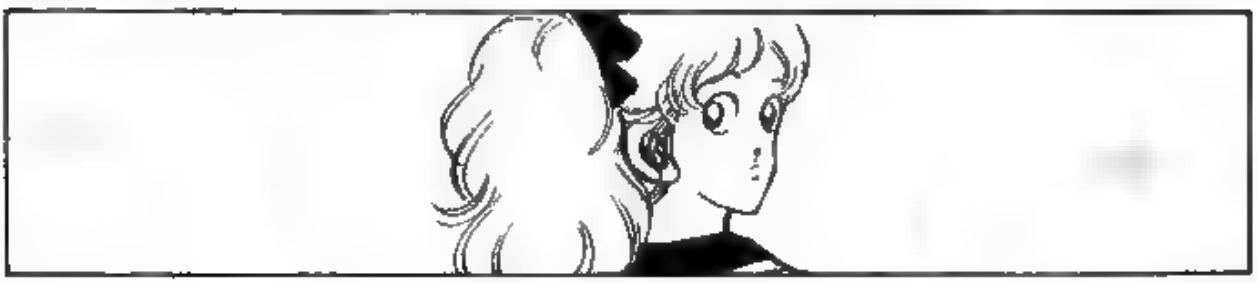

EH HEH
EH HEH

HEY, YUKA-CHAN ...
WHAT BRINGS YOU TO A PLACE LIKE THIS?
BLAT
AHH-
CHOO!
HUH?
AH...
AH..
AH...
AHH-
CHOO!

...
WIPE WIPE
PTOO
PTOO
HEY, HOLD IT...
YA' JERK!
HA HA...
HA HA HA...
SNIFFLE
CHOO!
HA HA HA!

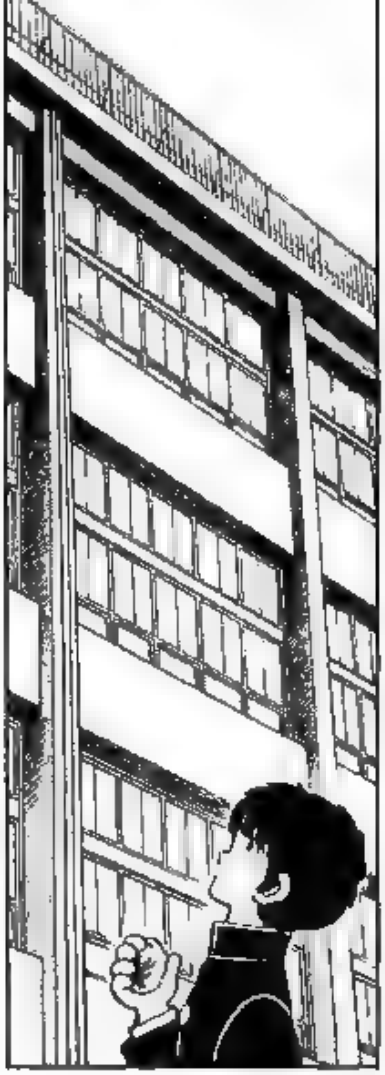

WHOOSH

SFX: <WHOOMP?>

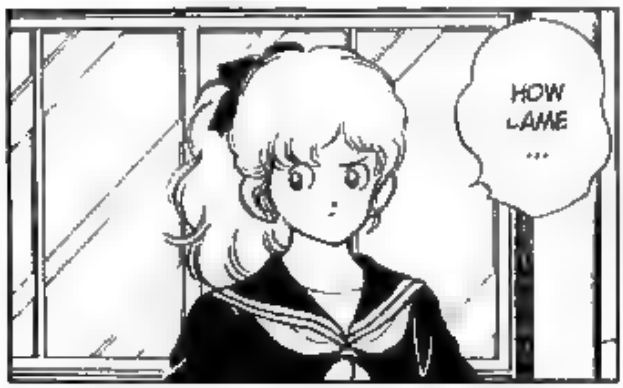


I DIDN'T MEAN FOR MY BOXING TEAM QUIRK TO...
OH... SHOOT.

Scandal Banned from Playing Extramural Games for One Year.
Meisei Baseball Player in Violent On-Campus Incident.



OH MY-Y ...
IT WAS AN UNFOR-TUNATE ACCIDENT.

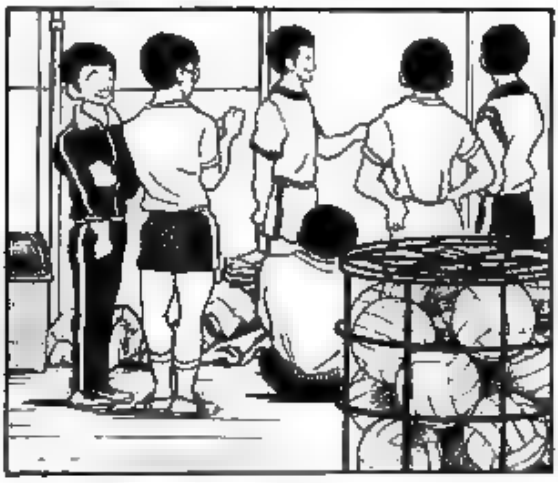

HOW LAME ...

OHH?
CLOP
CLATTER
NITTA'S KID SISTER, HUH?
NOTHING REALLY.
MM.
IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
OOO...
TO WHERE?
PERFECT TIMING. YOU CAN SHOW ME THE WAY.
AH ...

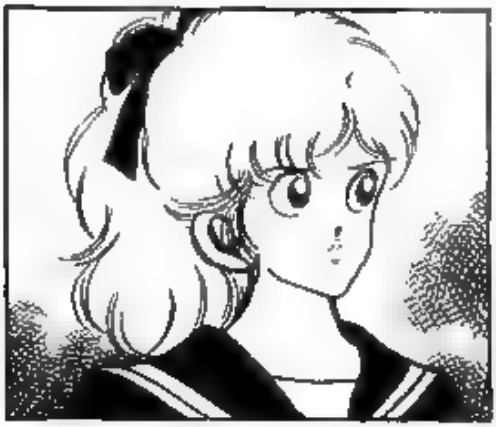
MM.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
SHIT!
WHERE'D THAT JERK GO!?
AN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT.
A ROCK THAT FELL OFF THE ROOFTOP HIT HIM RIGHT ON THE CHIN ...
YEAH.
WHICH WAY TO THE GYM?
ON THE CHIN?
DON'T JUST DO AS YOU PLEASE!
HEY, HOLD IT!
BIG GUY!

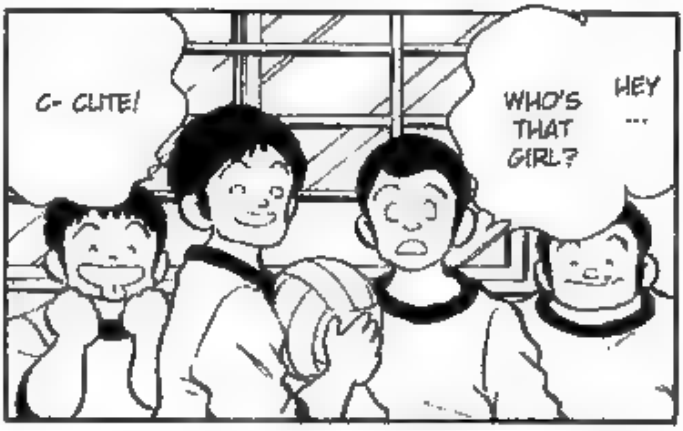
THUD
SFX: (WHAM)
SFX: (THWACK)
OOPS...

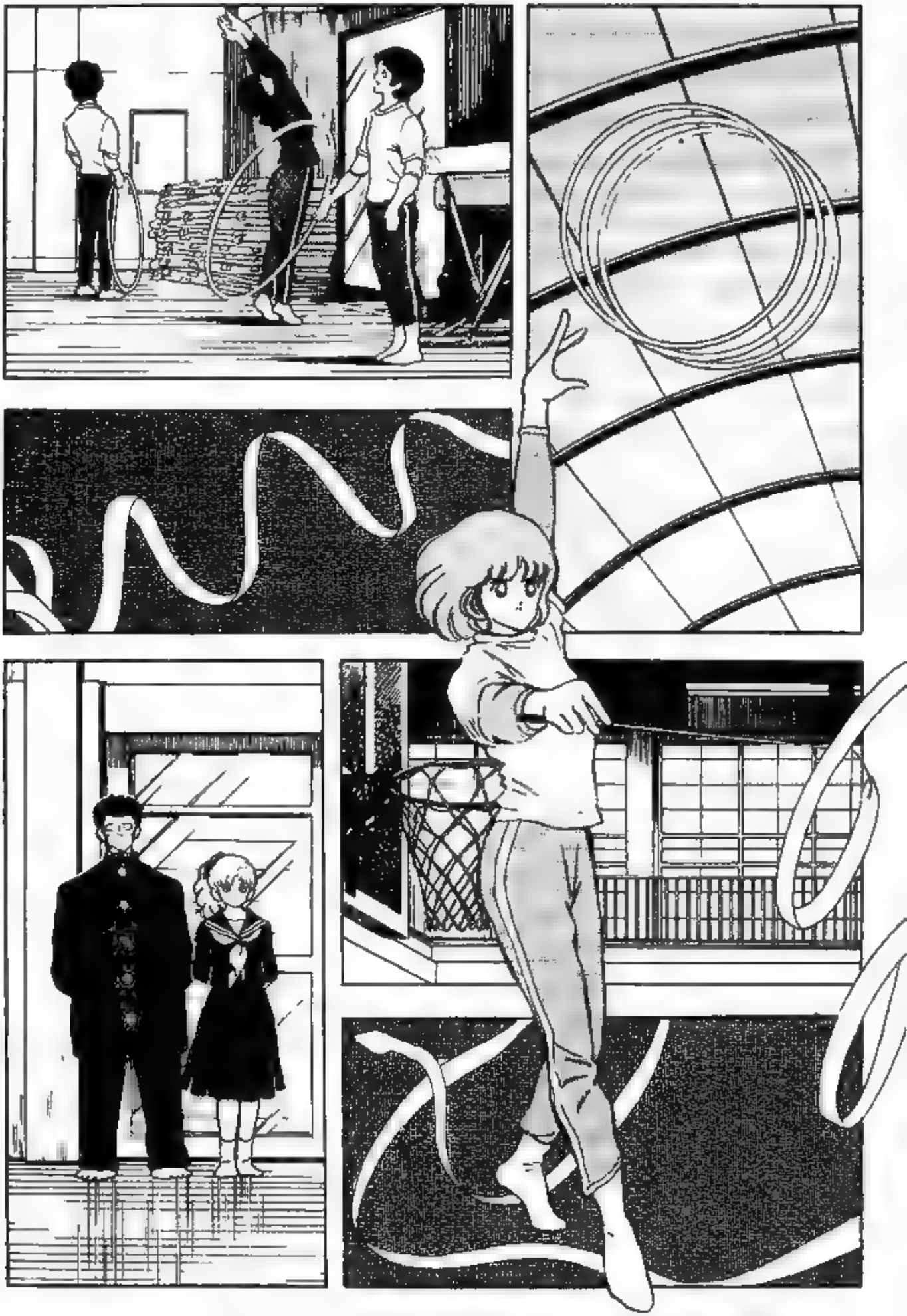
PLOP
HUP.
LET'S GO.
WELL . .

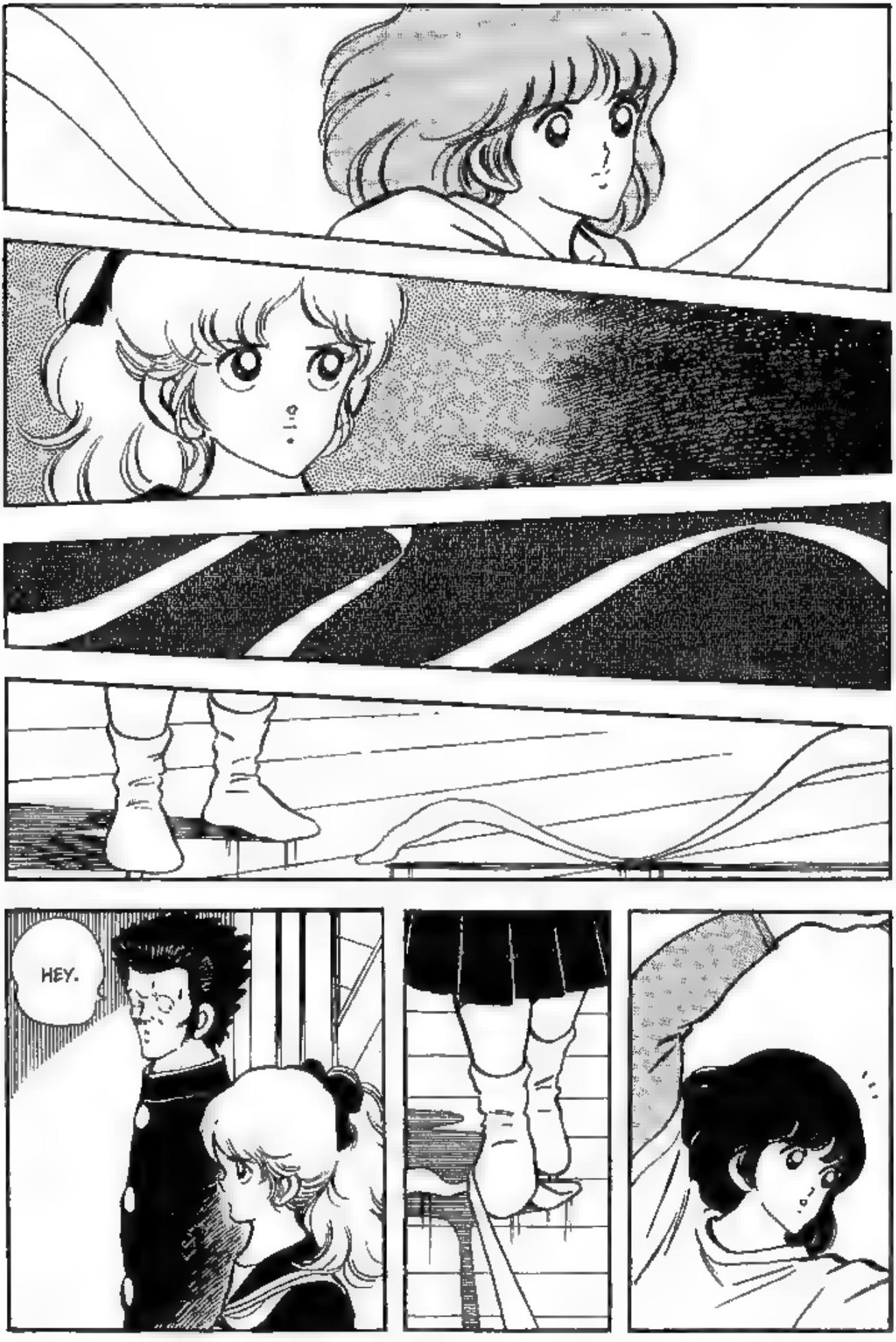


SIGN: <LYRICS TO THE SCHOOL'S SONG>








HEY.

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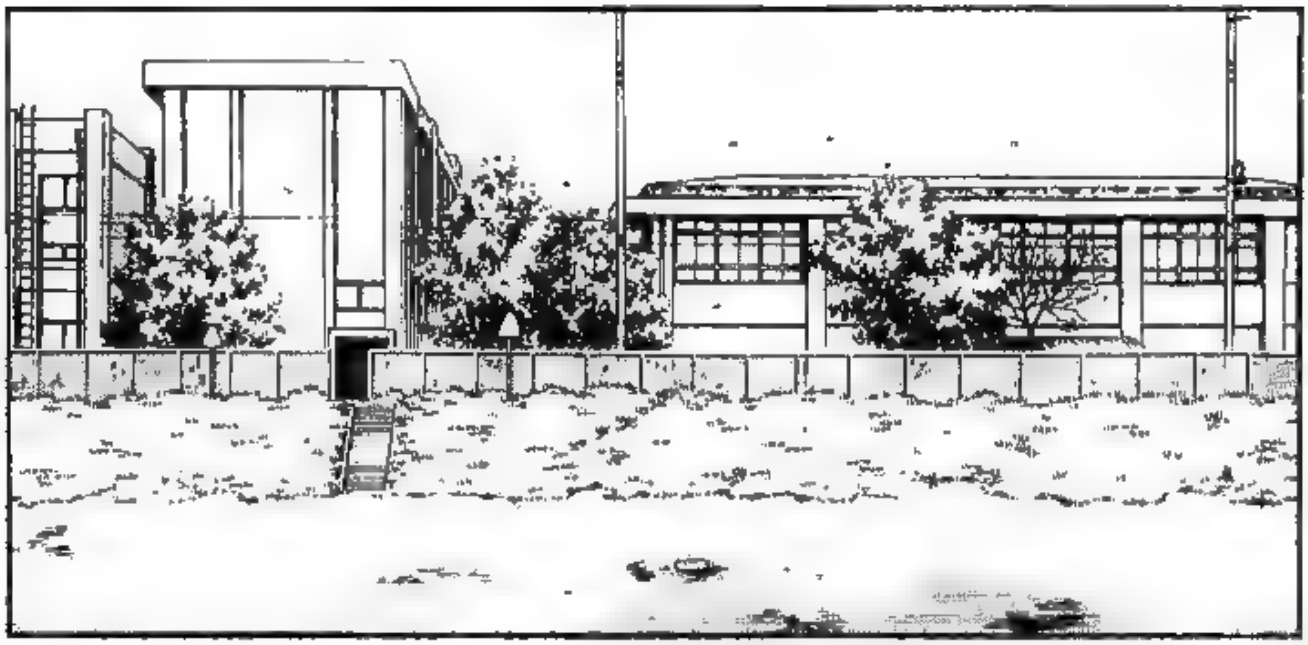
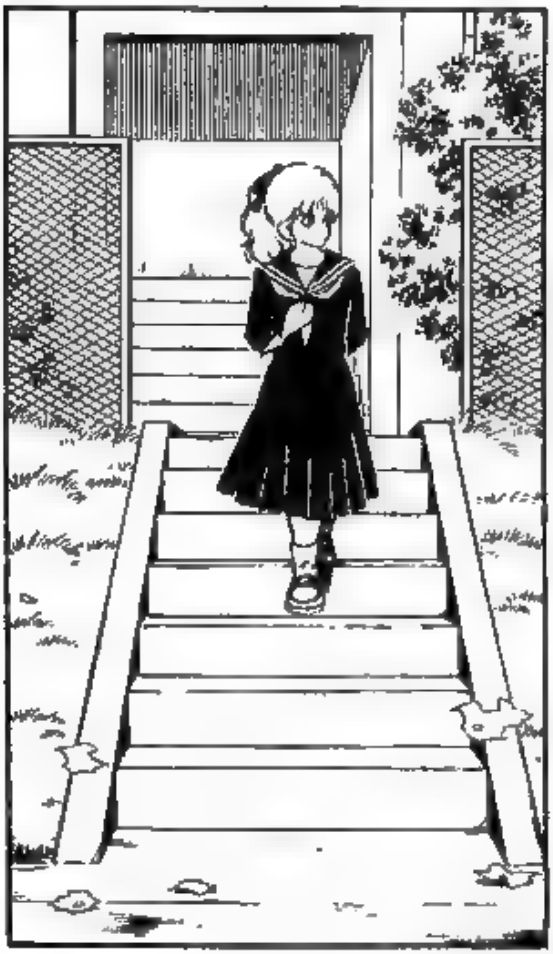


CLINK



M

EH?
YOUR ACE IS ...?
HEY, HEY.
DON'T JUST WALK IN AS YOU PLEASE.
WHICH PERSON IS HE?
IT'S UESUGI ...
WELL, FOR THE MO-MENT ...
CLI—NK
HE ISN'T HERE.
WHO ARE YOU?
MMM!?
SO I LET HIM TAKE A BREAK FROM TODAY'S PRACTICE.
IT SEEMED TOUGH FOR HIM, HAVING CAUGHT A COLD...

KID SISTER?
NITTA'S ...
NITTA AKIO'S KID SISTER, YUKA.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
AH, IF YOU CAME TO OBSERVE US...
PLEASE USE OUR BENCH.
AH... BUT...
WHAT A CONCEITED GIRL.
.....
THAT'S OKAY .. I'LL COME AGAIN.
OH... NOTHING ...
BUT?

Maybe You Were Asking Minami Out

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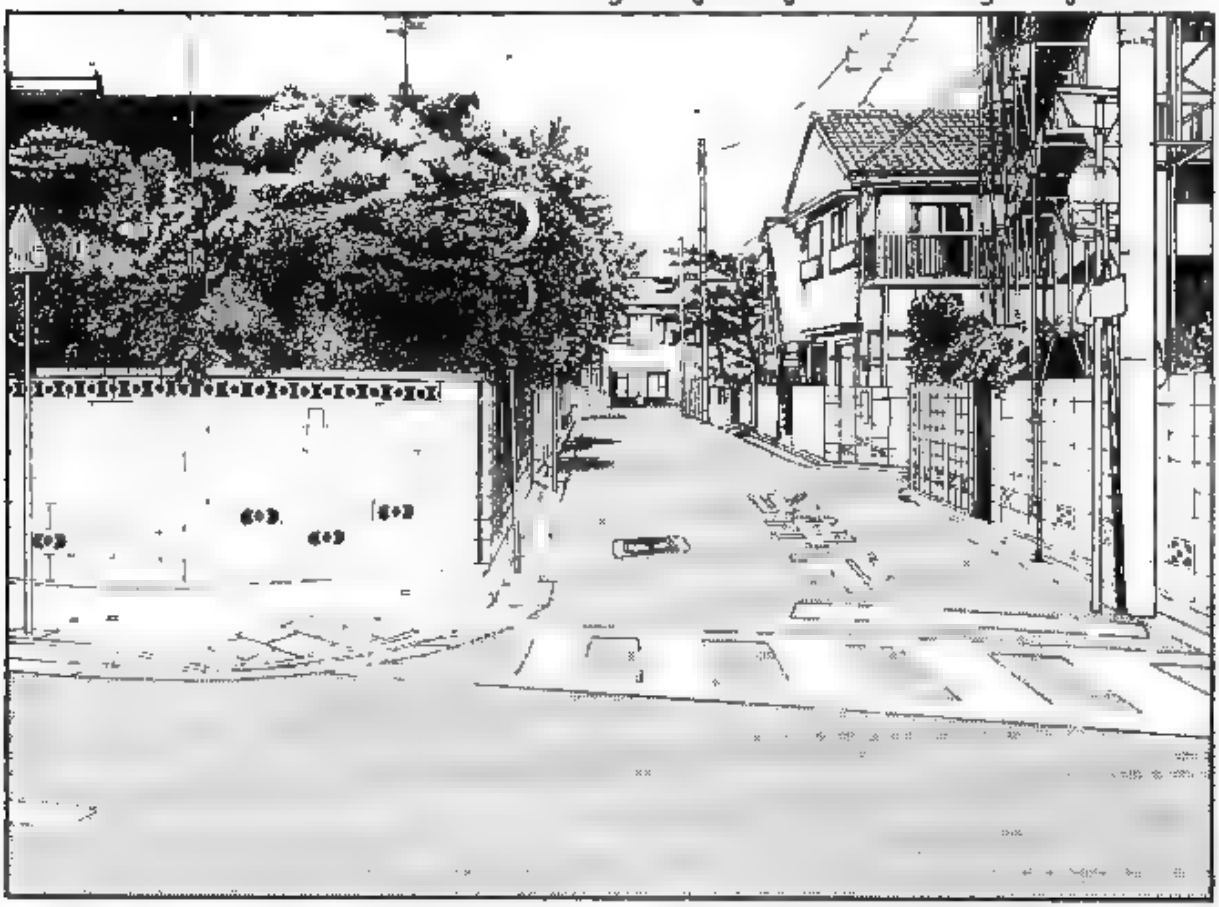
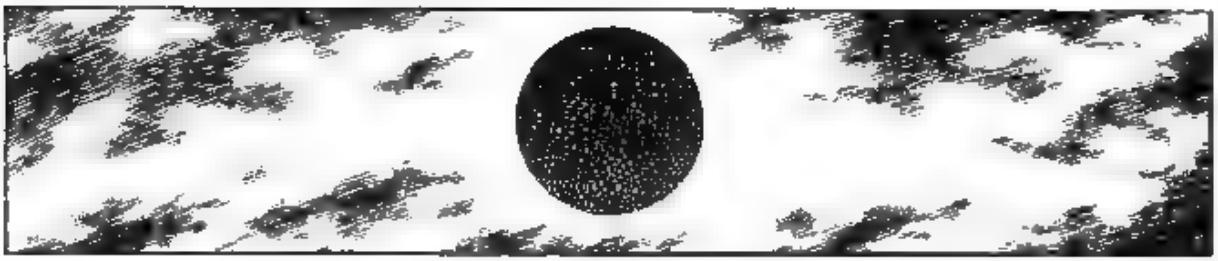
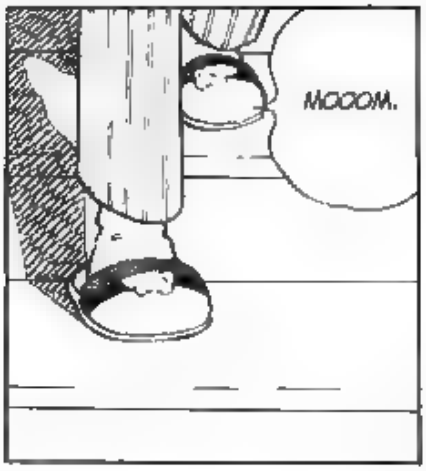
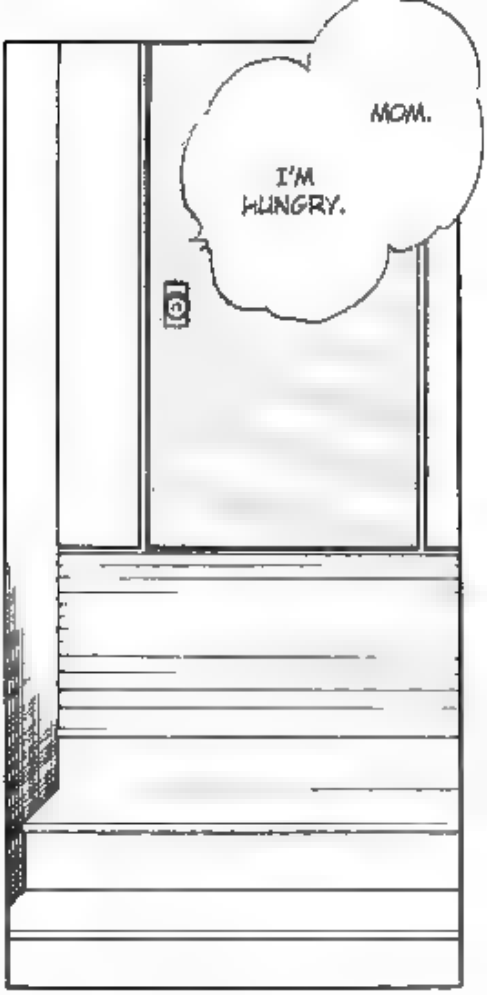
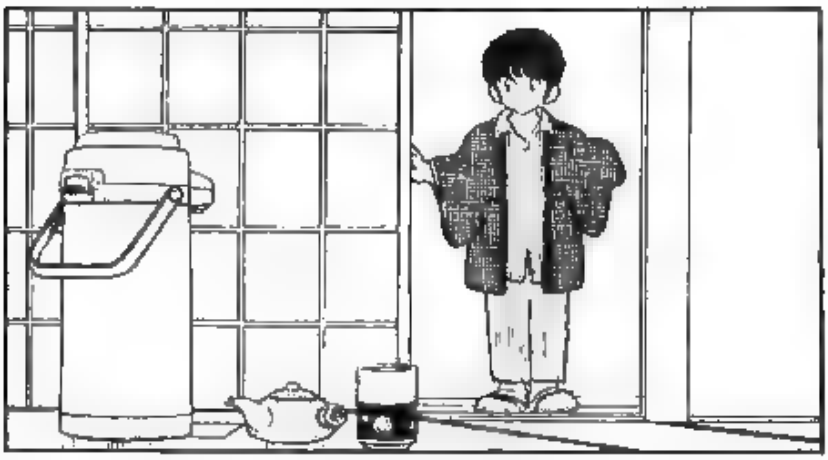


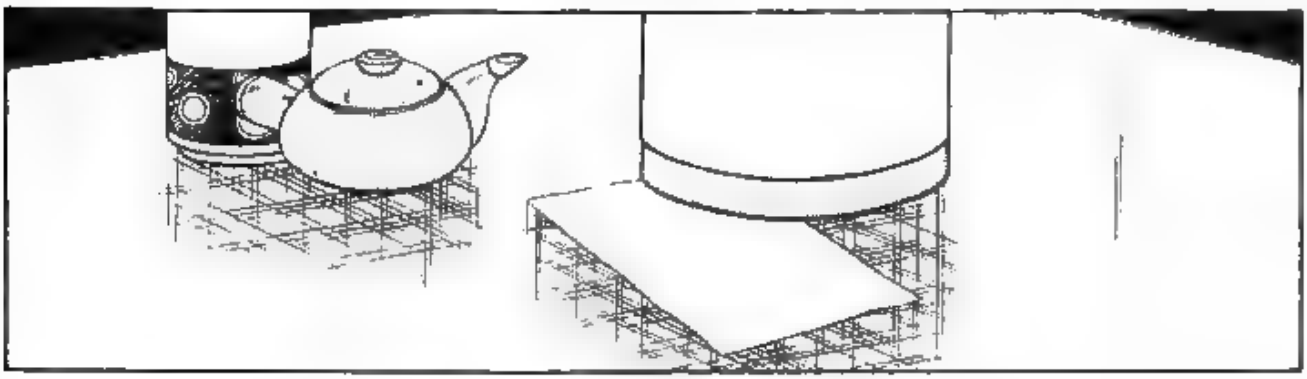



MOOOM.

BLAT

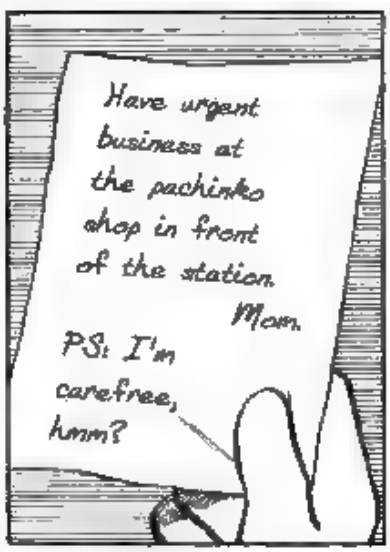

MOM.
I'M HUNGRY.





SFX: <RIP>

LII
II


Have urgent business at the pachinko shop in front of the station.
Mom.
PS: I'm carefree, hmm?

BLOOP
BLOOP
AHH...
CHOO!
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
SNIFF
HELLO.
SFX: <BRING..?
WHAT A PAIN.
WHAT A PAIN.

IT'S NISHIMURA ISAMI!
THE ACE OF SEINAN, AND THE HERO OF NEXT YEAR'S KOUSHIEN ...
IT'S NISHI-MURA!
WHO'S THIS?
IT'S DIFFERENT BY ONE NUMBER, YOU SCATTER-BRAIN...
MAY I SPEAK TO MINAMI-CHAN?
AH! IS THIS MINAMI-KAZE?
HAHA
Nishimura
THIS IS MINAMI.
HELLO.
MY VOICE SOUNDS FUNNY, DOESN'T IT?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT
DO YOU HAVE A COLD?
AHCHOO!
IT'S NISHIMURA-KUN. ARE YOU OFF TOMORROW? WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO OUT TO A MOVIE WITH ME SOMETIME SOON?
AHH... MINAMI-CHAN...

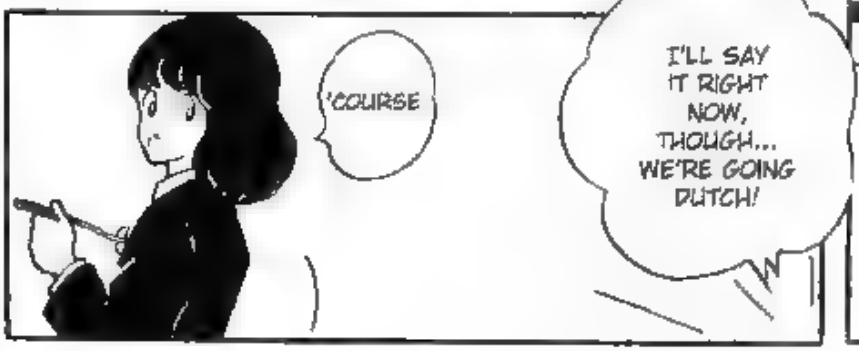
I HAVE TO SEE PORN.
EH?
CAN'T MAKE IT, HUH?
TOMOR-ROW...
MMM.
OKAY... THE KIND OF MOVIE, Y'KNOW...
I'M GLAD IT SEEMS WE HAVE COMMON INTERESTS.
MAN-N-N, HOW UN-EXPECTED.
OH, I S-SEE...
Uesugi
Y-
YES!
THEN, TOMORROW AT 12...
THE PACHINKO SHOP IN FRONT OF THE STATION. IN FRONT OF 216 BANDA...
OW, OW, OW...!
WAIT FOREVER, 'KAY?

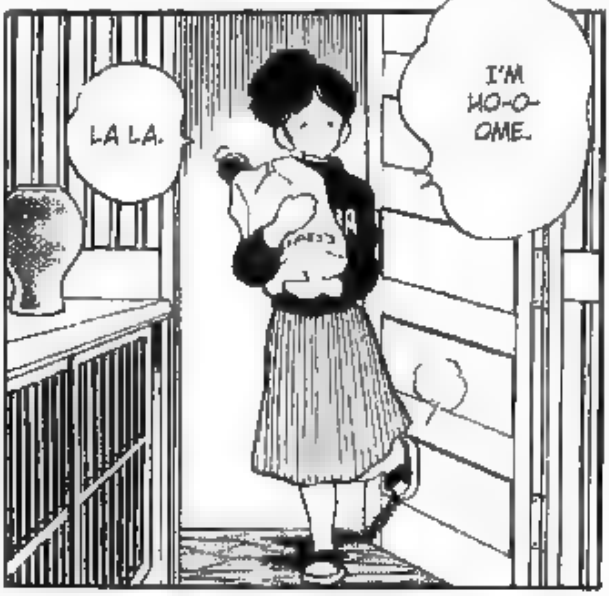
ALWAYS TURN OFF THE BURNER.
THIS IS DANGE-ROUS.
AH...
THANKS, THANKS.
カチッ
PHONE CALL?
IT'S 'CAUSE I WAS CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A PHONE CALL.
I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU.
THAT'S OKAY.
AH, PERFECT TIMING.
HM?

BLAT
IF I EAT A MEAL, AND GET A LITTLE MORE SLEEP...
WHA-A-AT?
YOUR COLD ...
STILL NOT GETTING BETTER?
CHOO!
SO TAKE IT EASY AND REST.
THAT'S TRUE .. TOMORROW'S A DAY OFF...
HM?
IS THERE SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO DO TOMORROW?
MY LONG-AWAITED DAY OFF WILL GO TO WASTE.
I'VE BEEN RECOVERING LIKE THAT ALL DAY TODAY
THOUGH ..
WELL ..
NOT REALLY ...

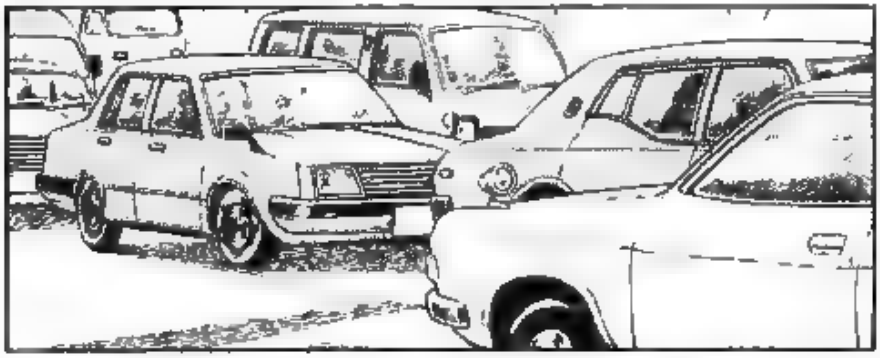
. . . .
OH, THAT'S NICE.
WHY DON'T YOU GO...
OW!
WHY DON'T WE SEE A MOVIE OR SOMETHING, ONCE IN A WHILE?
THAT'S RIGHT.
OOH ...
WHAT'S THIS, WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT?
I GUESS I'LL GO THEN...
NOT REALLY-Y-Y.
MAYBE YOU WERE ASKING ME OUT?
COULD IT BE ...?

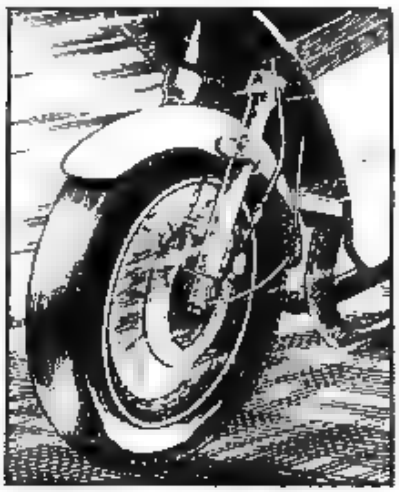
MANGA <BOY'S BIG>





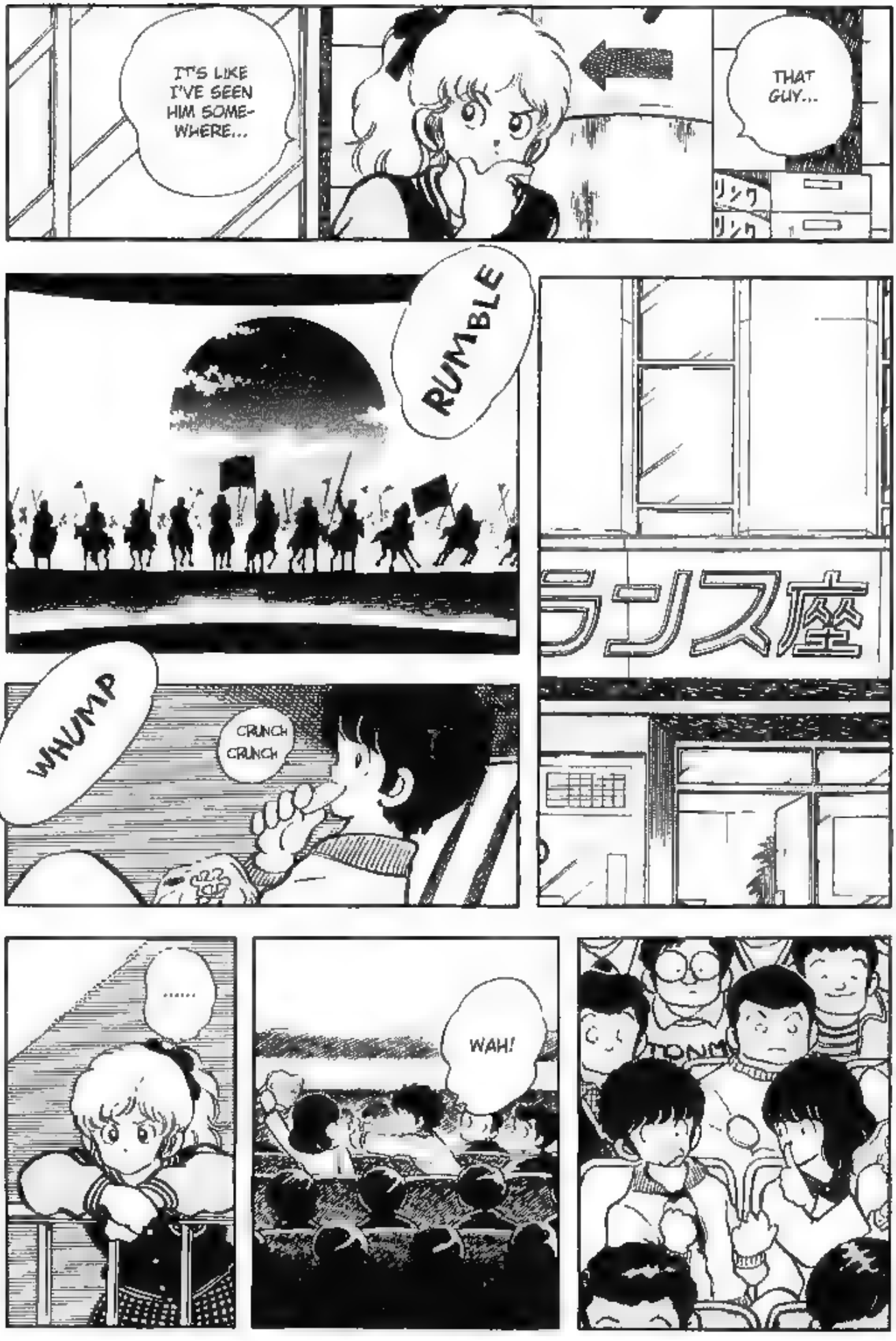
日東住宅

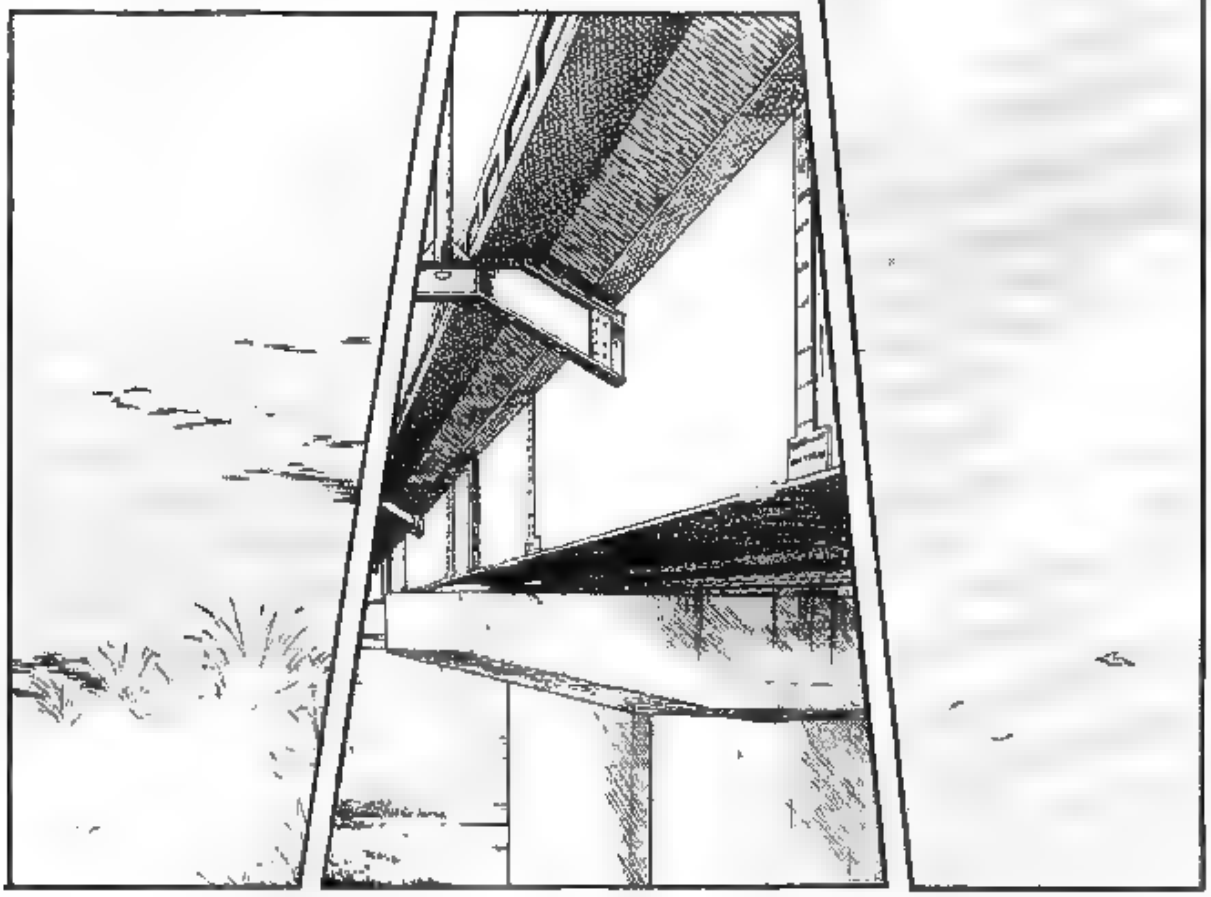


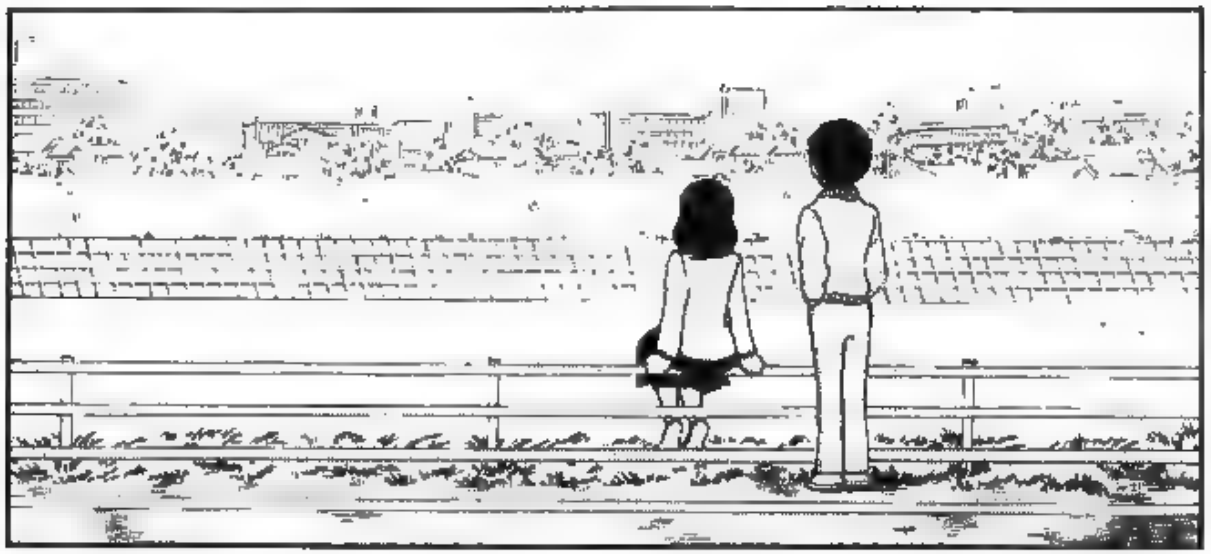


STOP!!
WHAT'S UP, YUKA-CHAN?
HUH?
I'LL GET OFF HERE.
W-
WAIT, YUKA-CHAN!
ヒラリ

A COMPLETE RECOVERY.
MM!
IS YOUR COLD ALL RIGHT?
HA
THEN THE WORLD ...
IF COLDS COULD BE CURED BY OKAYU...
HA!
MY OKAYU WORKED, HM?
IT'S BECAUSE OF THE OKAYU...
RIGHT ..


IT'S LIKE I'VE SEEN HIM SOME-WHERE...
THAT GUY...
リンク
リンク
RUMBLE
ランス盆
WHUMP
CRUNCH CRUNCH
.....
WAH!





NIGHT-MARE?
A NIGHT-MARE WHERE...
'CAUSE I HAD A NIGHTMARE AND WOKE UP...
NOT ENOUGH SLEEP?
YAWN!
I DIDN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP TODAY
...WITHOUT HAVING MUCH OF A FEVER, YOU GOT SICKER AND DIED, TATCHAN.
I WON'T LET MYSELF DIE THAT EASILY.
DUMMY.
HEEEY...
YOU NEVER KNOW.

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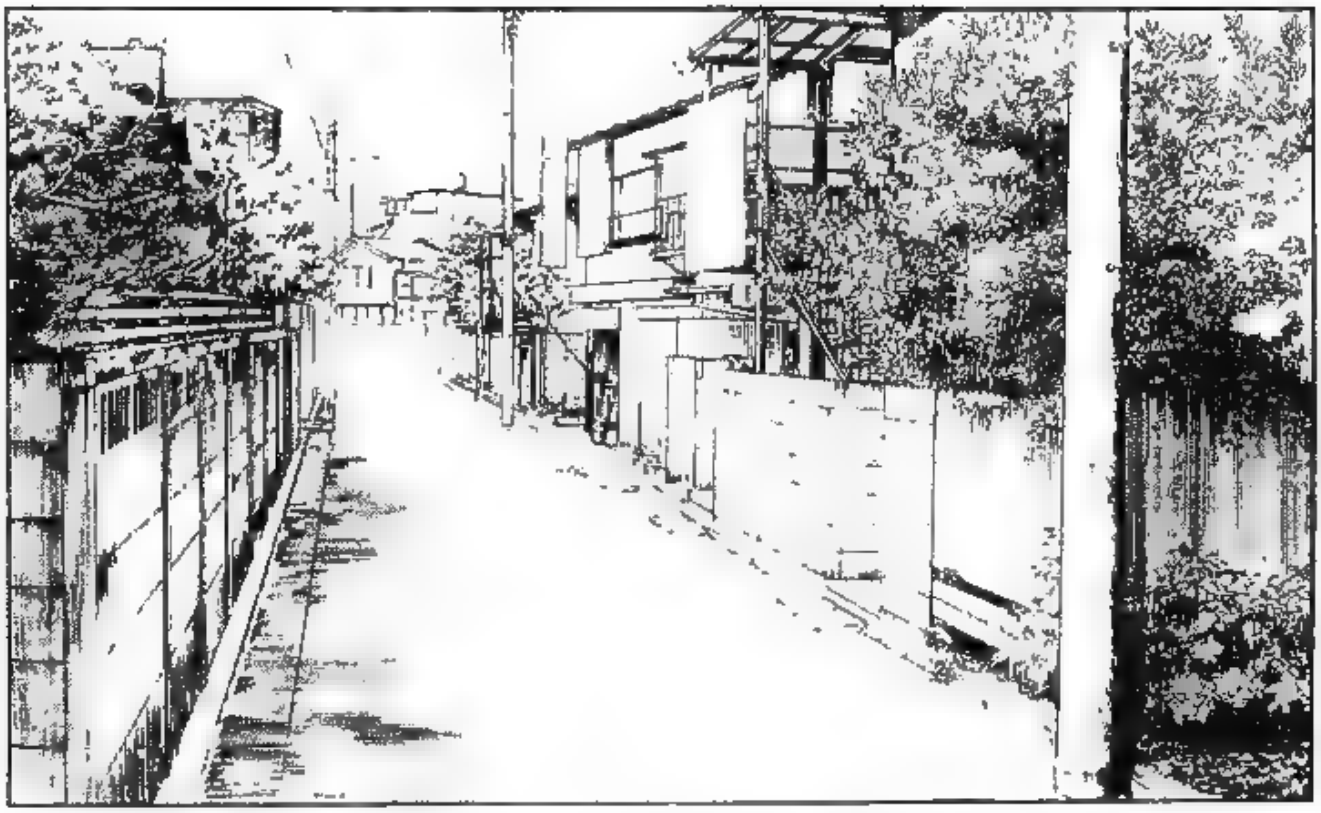

HOW STRANGE ...

MINAMI-CHAN DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
NOT WAITING FOR YOU AT THE PACHINKO SHOP.

NOT AT ALL.
OH ..
I'M SO SORRY.

Do Your Best and Live

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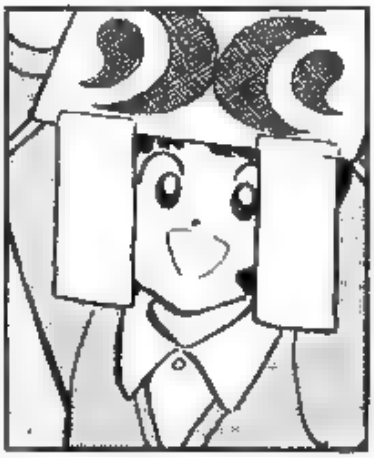
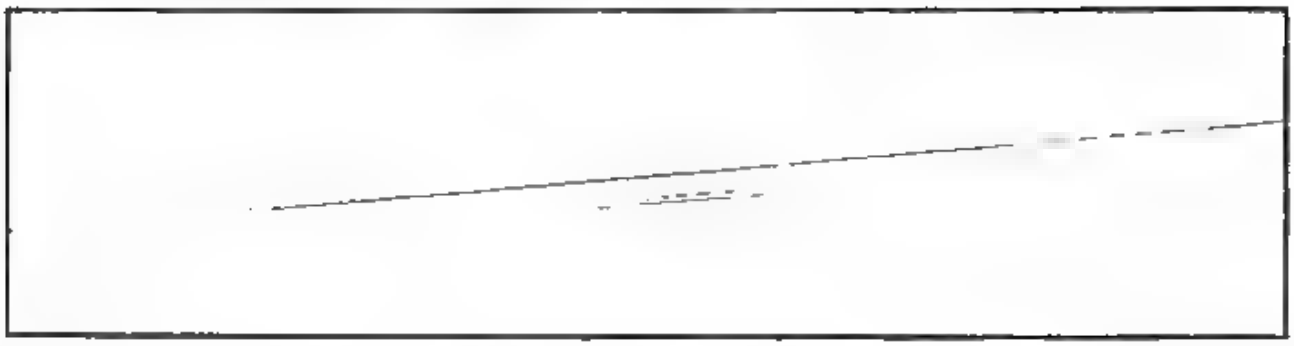
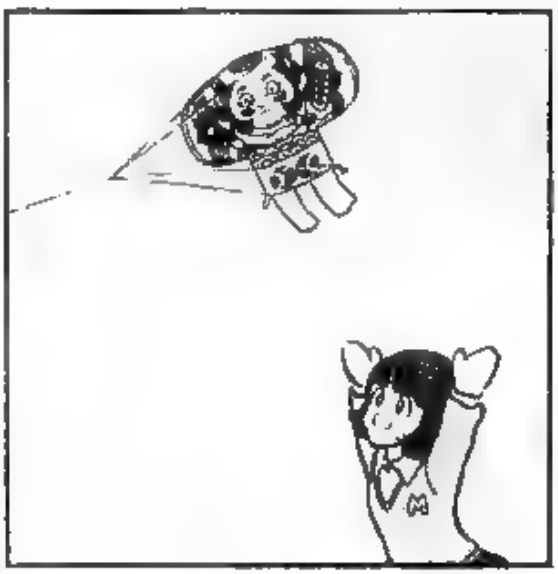
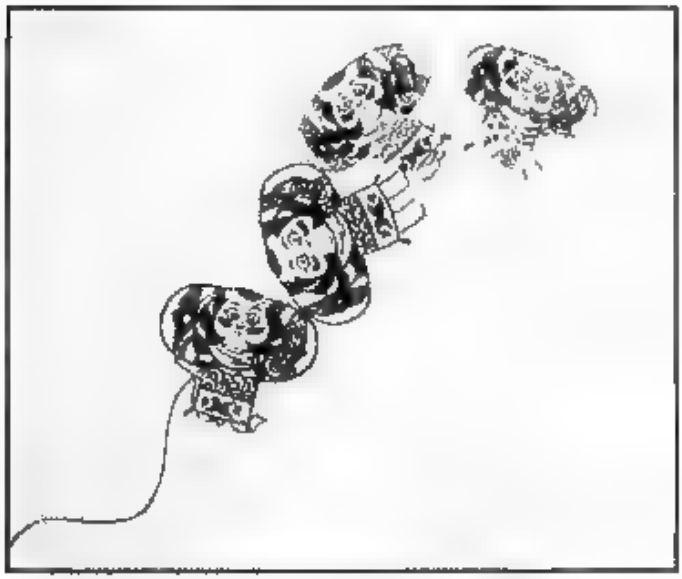
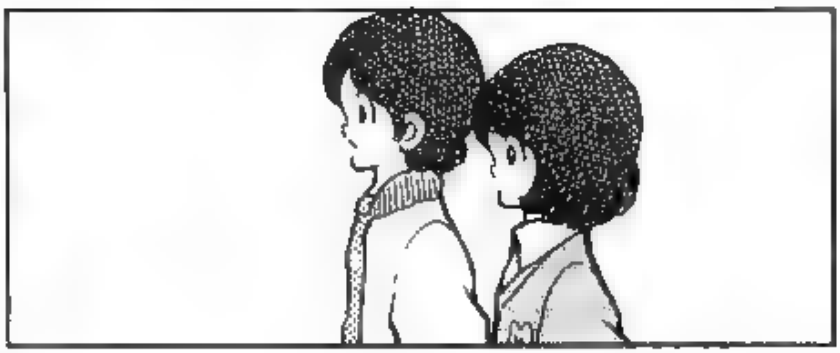
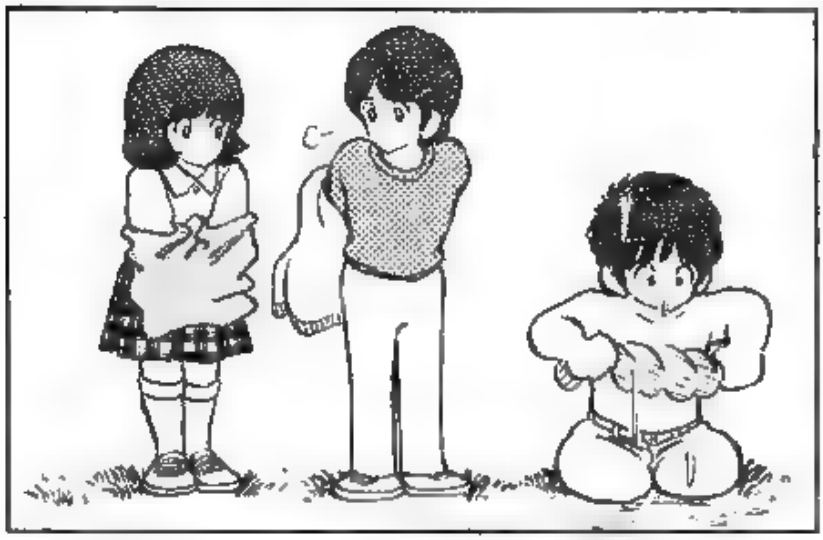


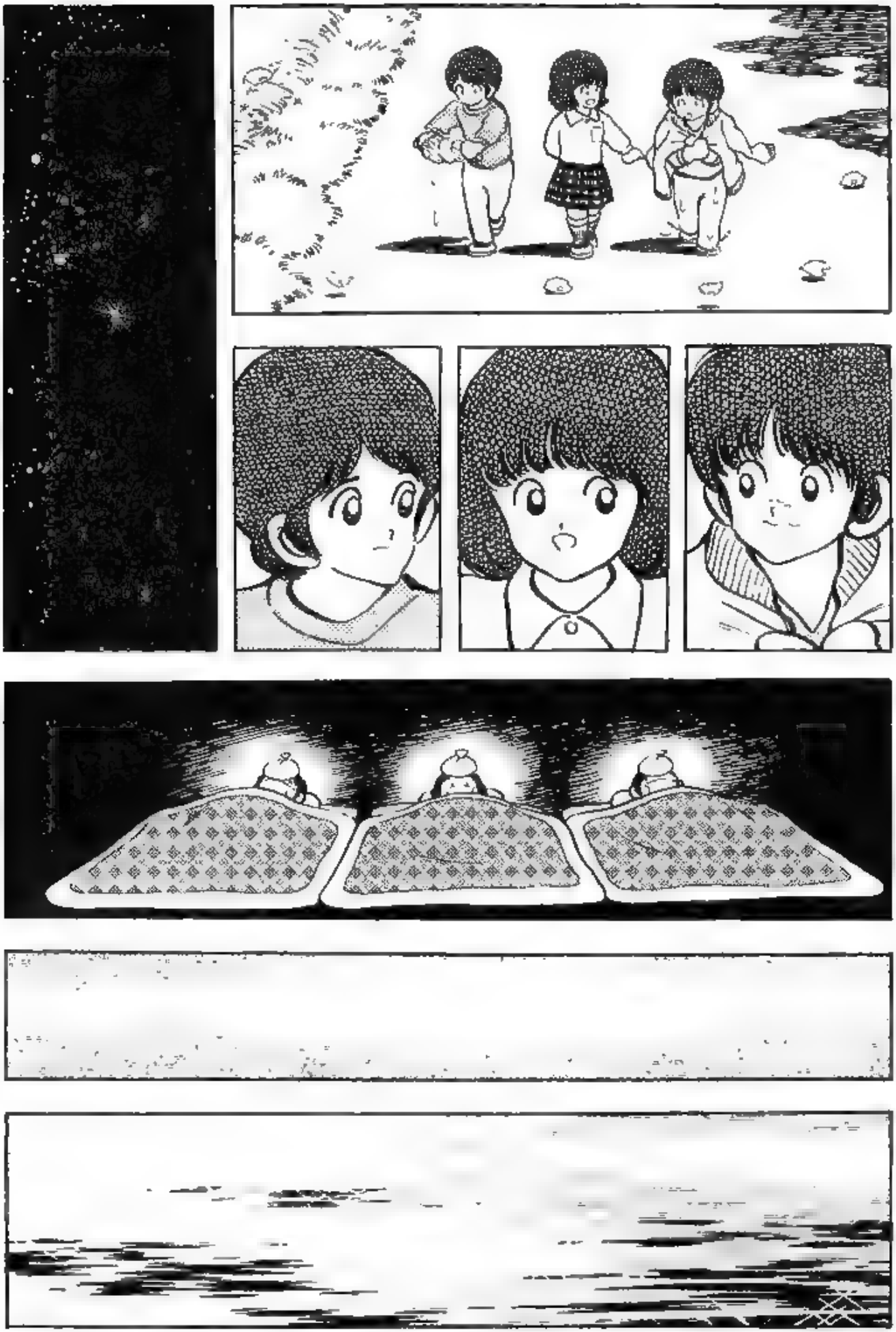


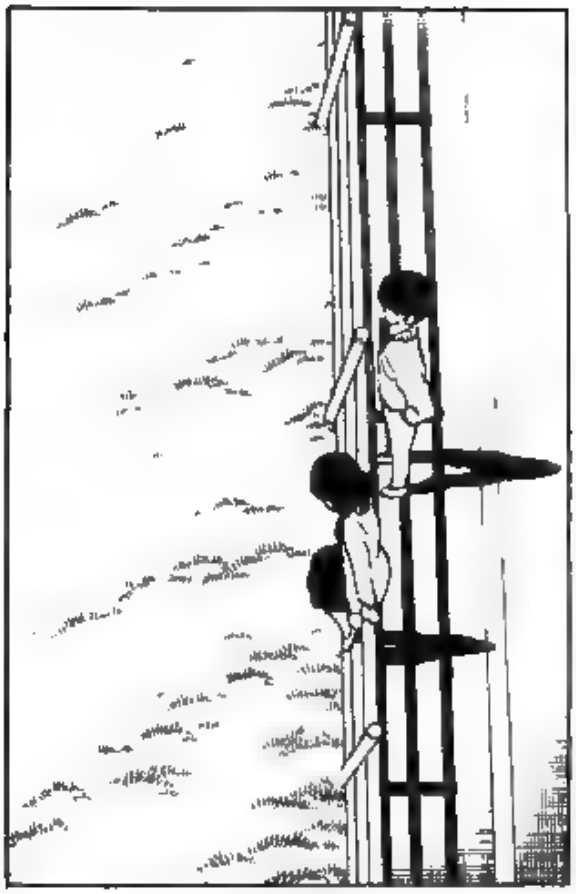


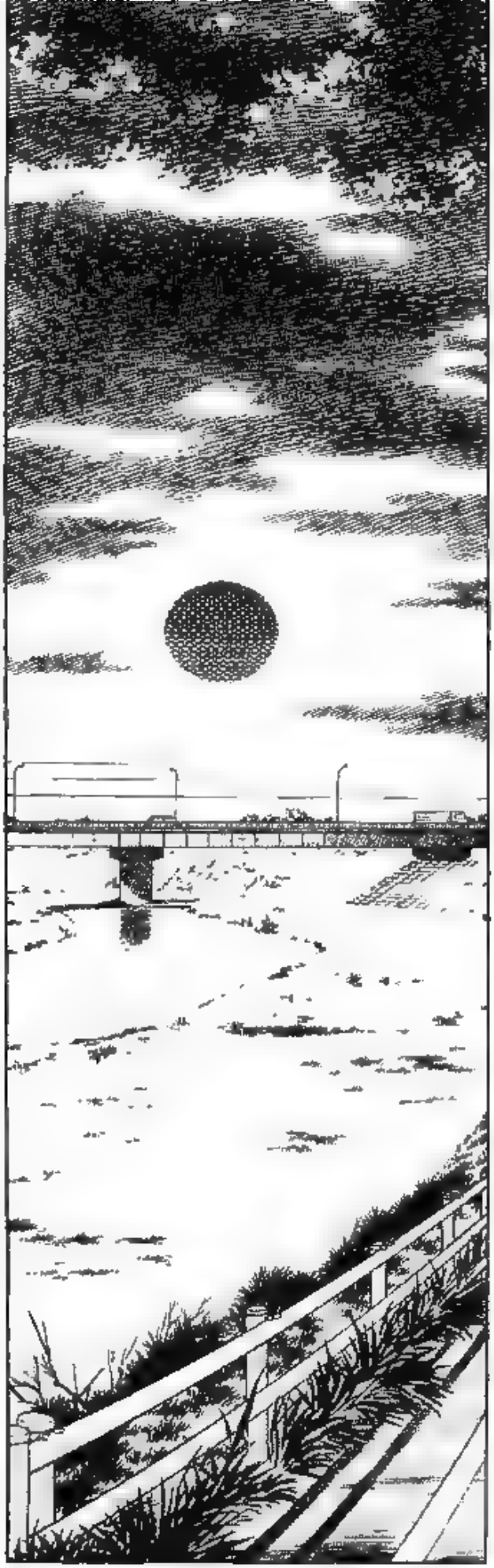






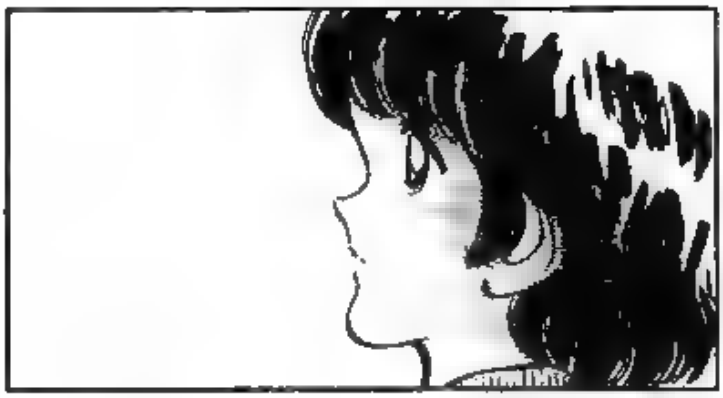




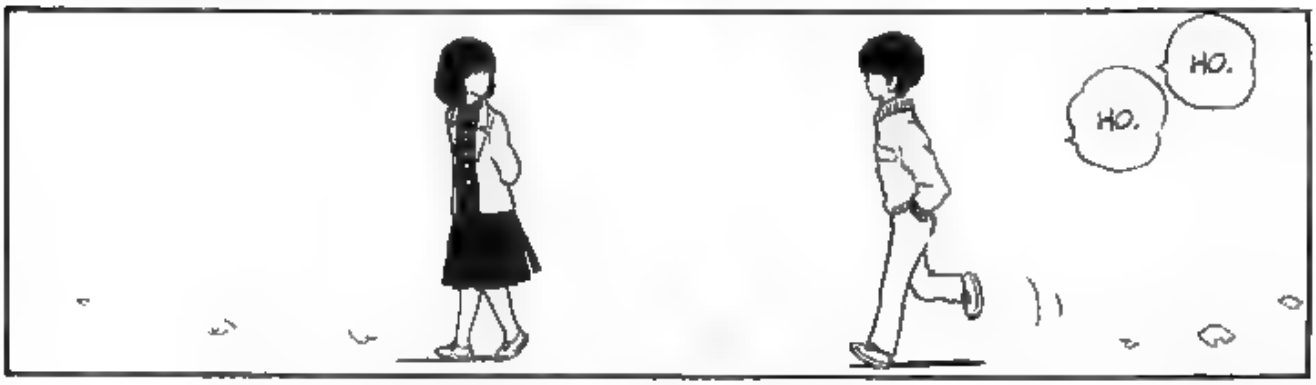


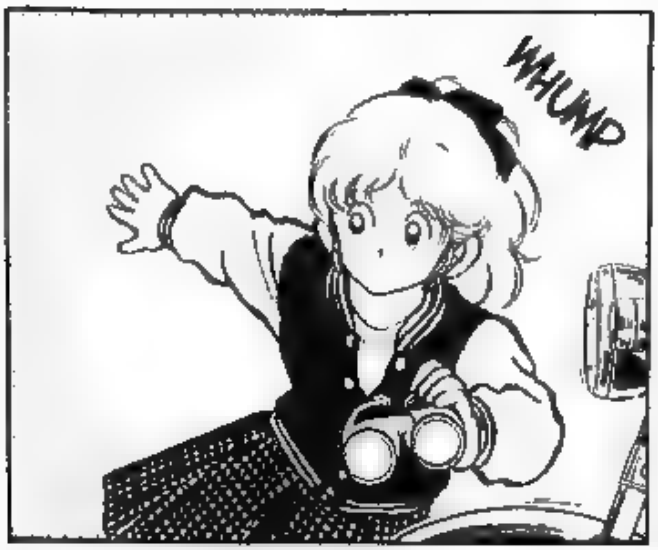
PROB-
ABLY.
SAME AS YOU, TATCHAN.
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING ABOUT?
UH-HUH.
THE WAY THINGS ARE IN THE WORLD TODAY, HUH?
WHAT ARE THOSE TWO DOING?
JEEZ...

HUP.
FIGHT!!
'CAUSE WE'RE THE PROOF THAT KATCHAN WAS ALIVE IN THIS WORLD.
DO YOUR BEST AND LIVE!



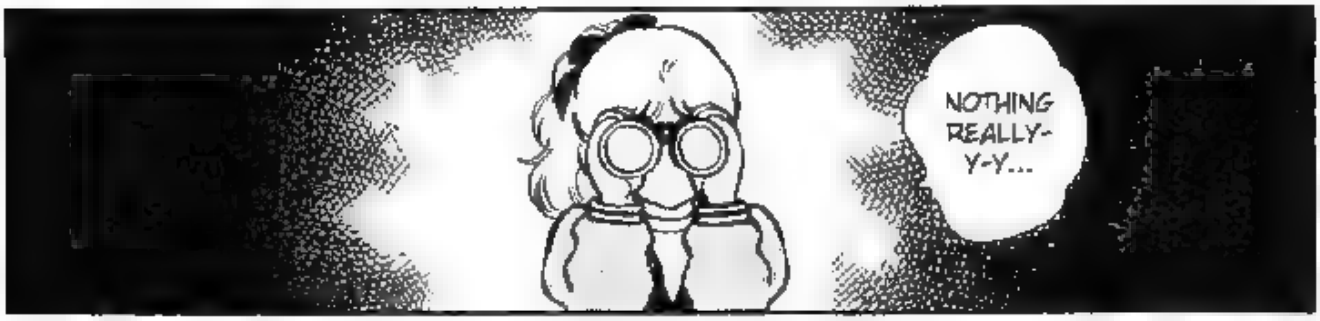
TATCHAN.

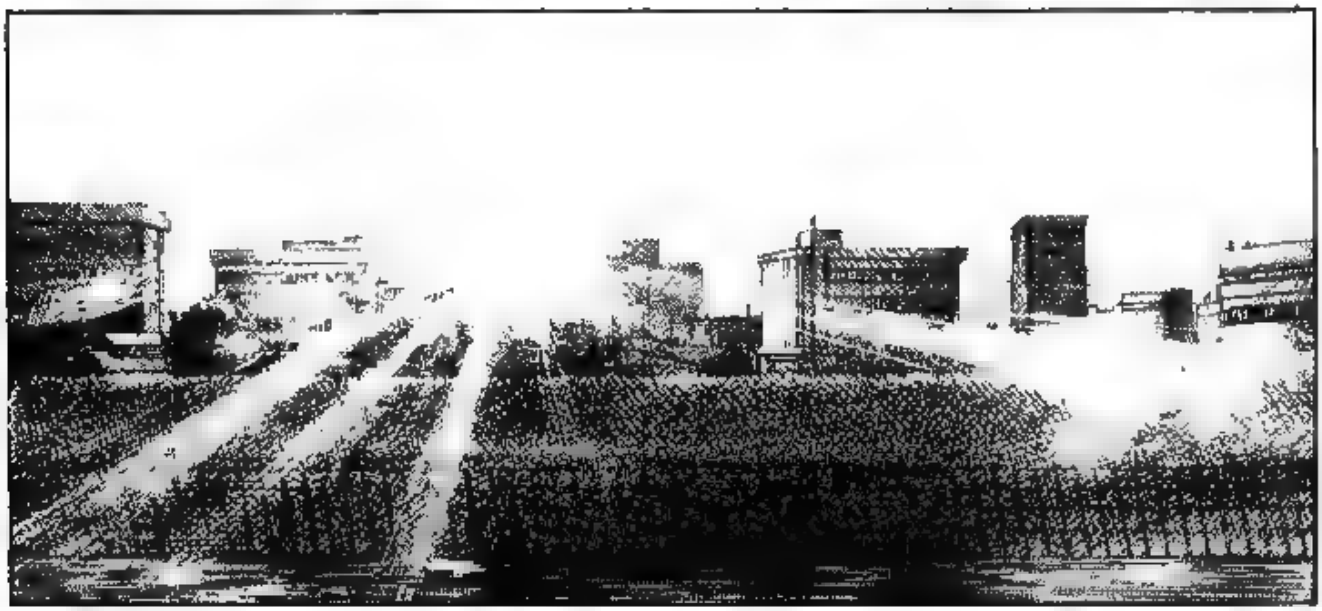

HO.
HO.

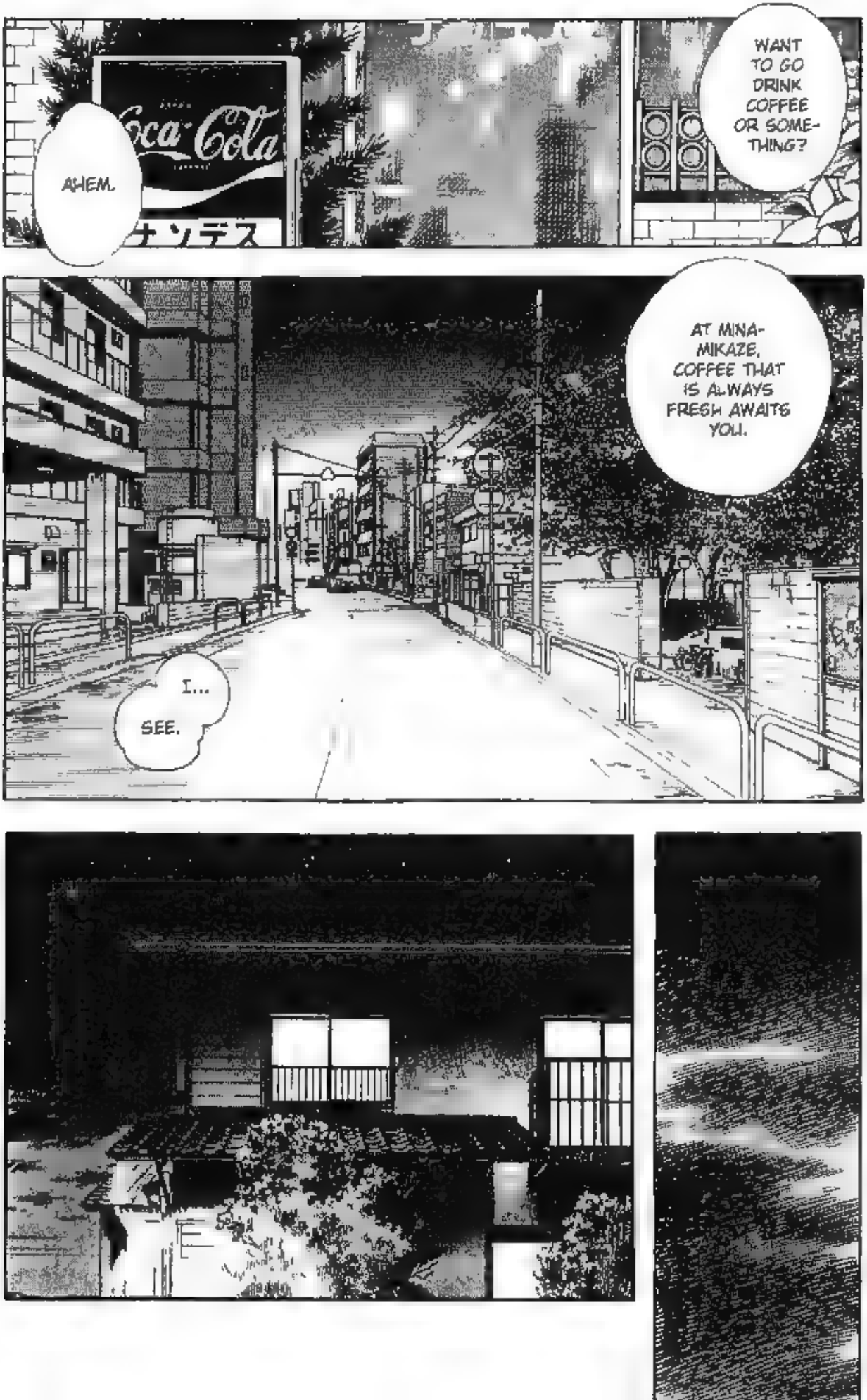

WHUMP

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

ONIICHAN.


NOTHING REALLY-Y-Y...




Coca-Cola
ナンデス
AHEM.
WANT TO GO DRINK COFFEE OR SOMETHING?
AT MINAMIKAZE, COFFEE THAT IS ALWAYS FRESH AWAITS YOU.
I... SEE.

OBASAN ...
WHERE'S THE BATH-ROOM?
AH...
GO OUT INTO THE HALL, AND IT'S ACROSS FROM THE TELEPHONE STAND.
THANKS.
ACROSS FROM THE TELEPHONE STAND...

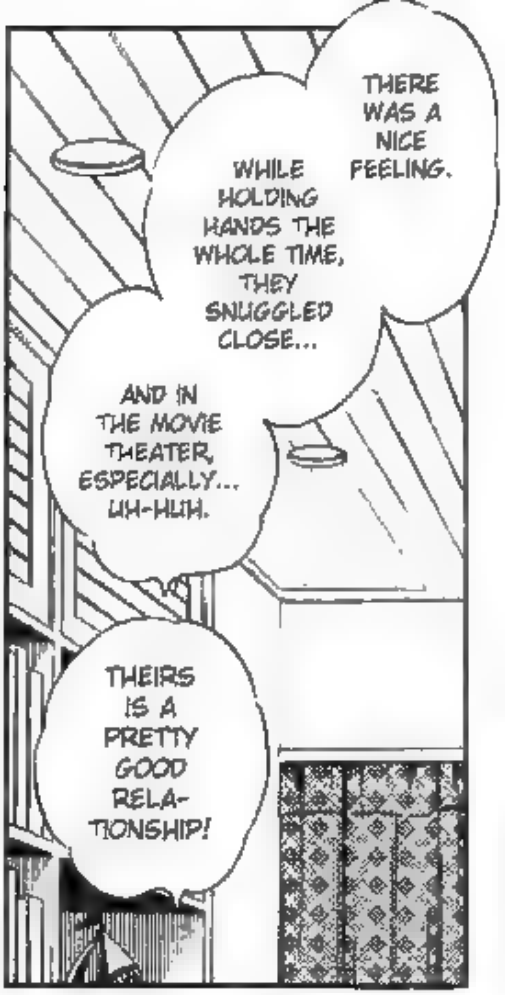
TOILET
ONE NUMBER DIFFERENT FROM MINAMIKAZE'S, HUH...
OHO ...
TOILET
COLD?
OBASAN . .
HAS MINAMI-CHAN RECOVERED FROM HER COLD?
MINAMI-CHAN. . HASN'T CAUGHT ANY COLD.

SURE ENOUGH ...
.....?
THE ONE WHO WAS LAID UP WITH A COLD...
WAS MY STUPID SON.
YOU SURE ARE BEAUTIFUL, OBASAN.
SURE ENOUGH ?
OHHHH.
AROO

A DATE?
Nitta
I WAS FOLLOWING THEM THE WHOLE TIME
UH-HUH.
SHE HAS A BOYFRIEND, HM... ASAKURA MINAMI...
IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID, ONII-CHAN.
UH-HUH.
WHY YOU ..

SPLAT

TADAH!
AND THEN, AT A DESERTED RIVERBANK, THOSE TWO...

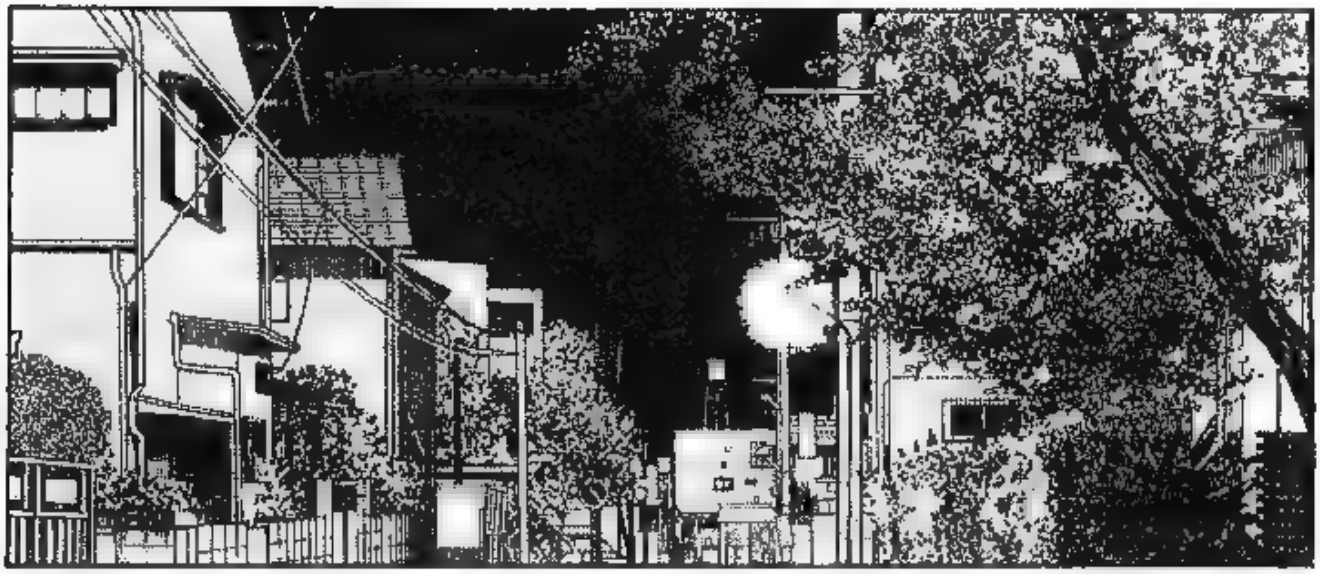

THERE WAS A NICE FEELING.
WHILE HOLDING HANDS THE WHOLE TIME, THEY SNUGGLED CLOSE...
AND IN THE MOVIE THEATER, ESPECIALLY... UH-HUH.
THEIRS IS A PRETTY GOOD RELA-TIONSHIP!

THAT'S A PRETTY PATHETIC ACT.

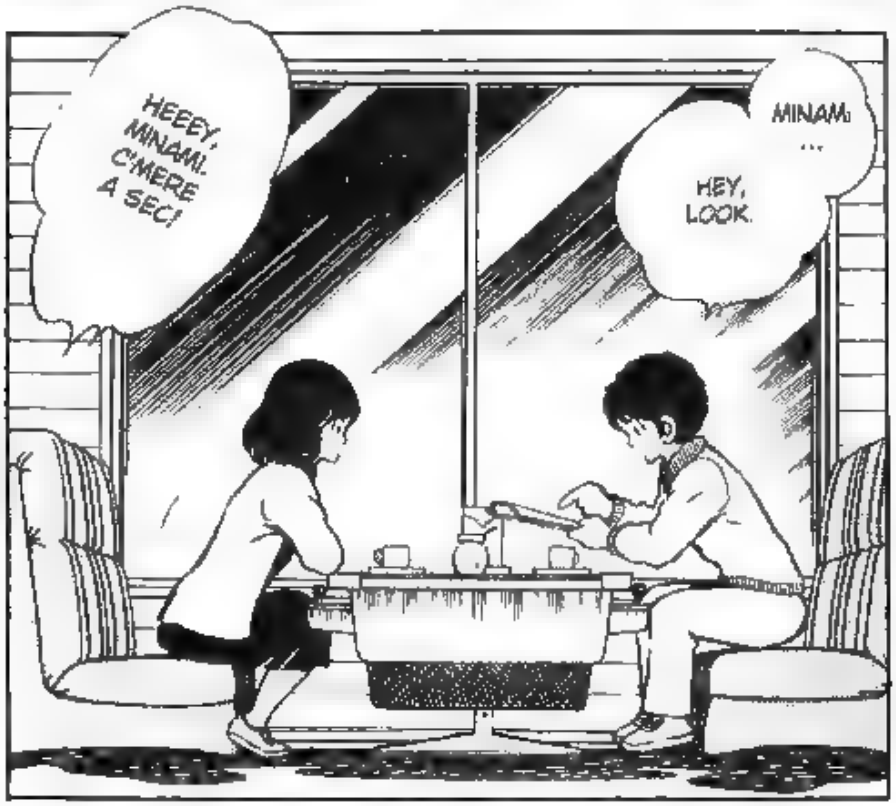
PURR

YE-E-ES.

ONIICHAN... SINCE YOU DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT ASAKURA MINAMI, RIGHT?
IT'S TRUE, HMM ...



SIGN: MINAMIKAZE COFFEE SHOP?



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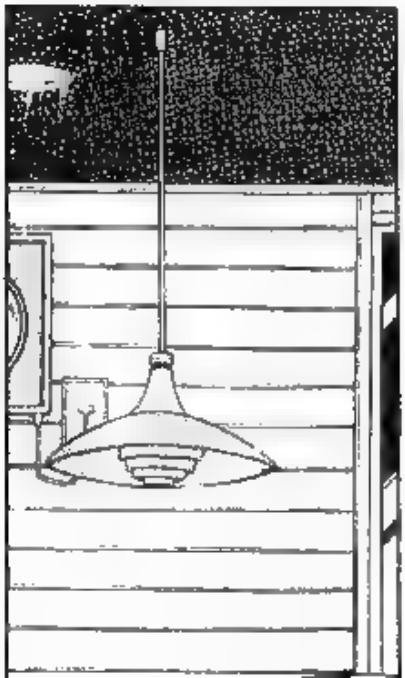

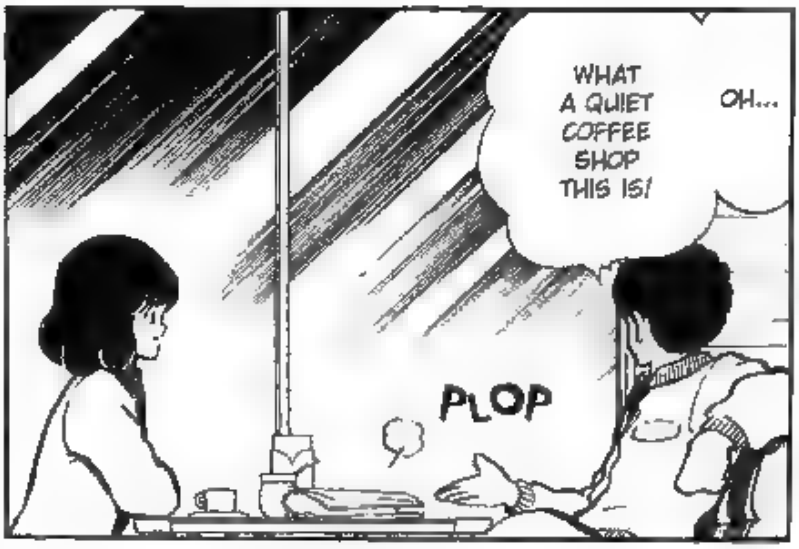

I...
SEE.
BUT, I DIDN'T GET ONE YESTERDAY ..
COME TO THINK OF IT, RECENTLY ..
AT THE LAST BREAK, I WAS SURE HE WAS GONNA CALL ME...
I WONDER HOW THAT IDIOT NISHIMURA IS DOING...
HMMMM.
SOGASI!
WAI WAI
MENU

Good Morning, Uesugi

30
GOOD MORNING
GOOD MORNING

GOOD MORNING
G'MORNING
MORNING

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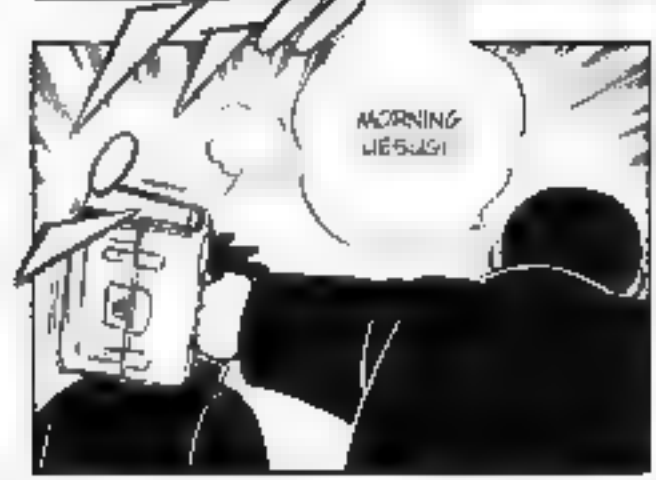
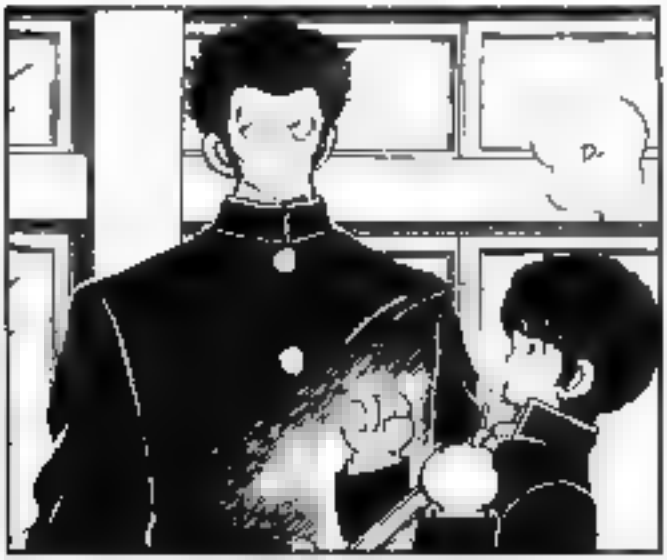
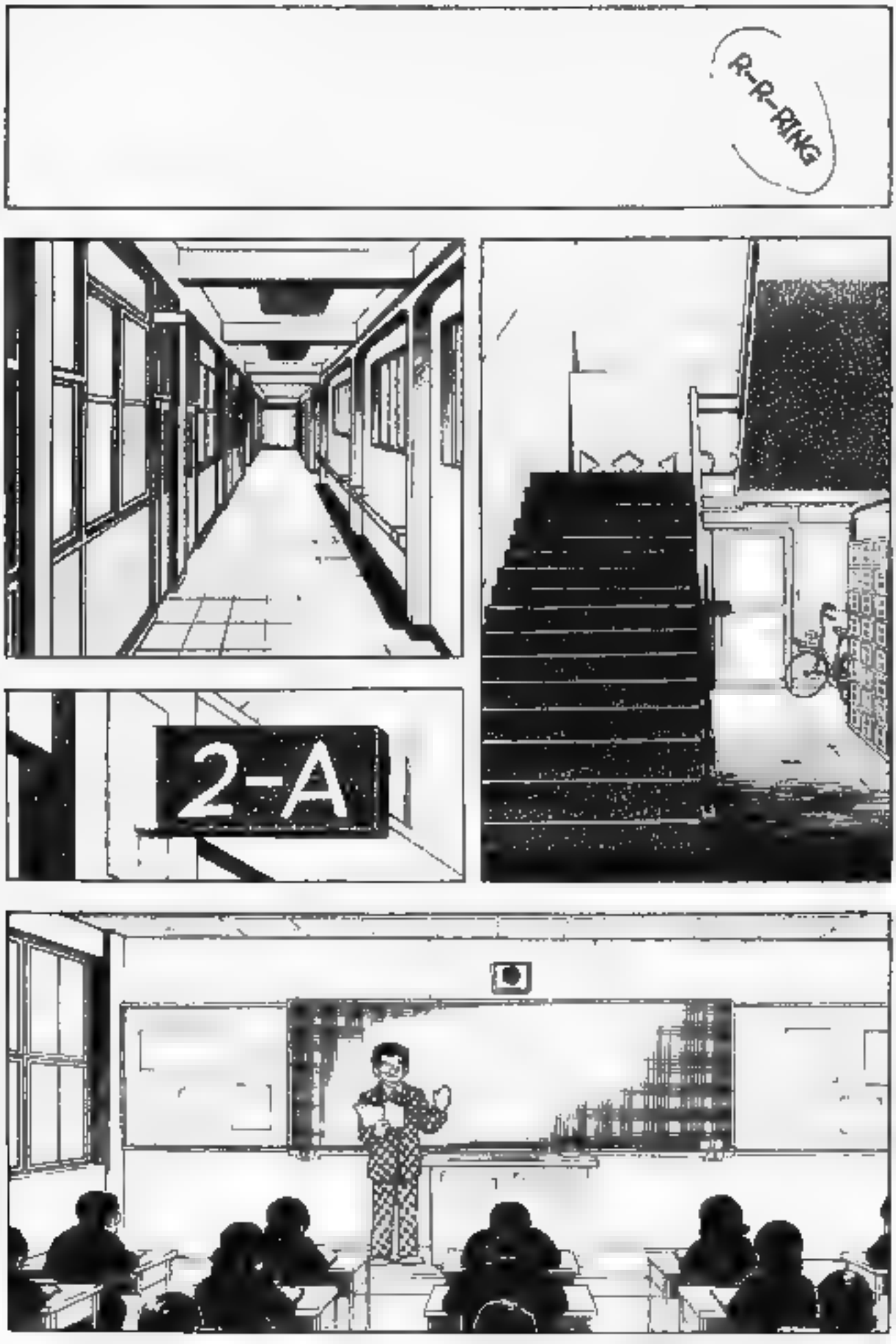




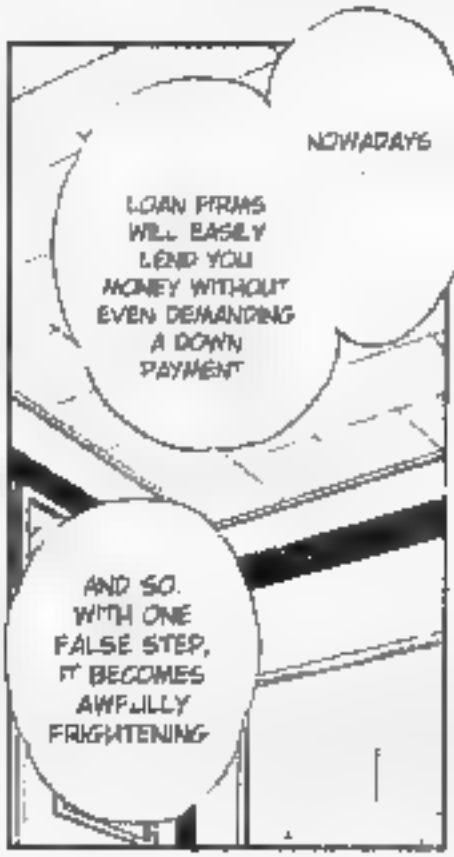
I MADE HIM GONE OKAYU, THAT'S WHY
LOOKS LIKE YOUR COLD'S BETTER.
WHAT DID I DO?
D-
DON'T FRIGHTEN PEOPLE!
EH?
WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE?
OOO
GOOD MORNING, UESUGI!
YE-E-ES!
MINAMI-I-I!

MORNING
YOU'RE CLASS-MATES, SO OF COURSE HE WOULD
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
WELL IF YOU PUT IT THAT WAY
HE CALLED ME BY NAME WITHOUT A "-SAN"


R-R-RING
2-A

YOU GOT IT RIGHT?
TO MAKE A LIVING BORROWING MONEY AND SUCH WITHOUT HAVING A GOAL OF REPAYING IT IS WRONG.
UNDERSTAND? NO MATTER HOW HARD WE ALL LIKE THIS HERO HERE

THEY CAN END UP BEING CARRIED AWAY BY THE DESIRES OF THE SITUATION, AND FAIL TO THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE.
WHEN THEY CAN BORROW EASILY
BECAUSE HUMANS ARE WEAK.


NOWADAYS
LOAN FIRMS WILL EASILY LEND YOU MONEY WITHOUT EVEN DEMANDING A DOWN PAYMENT
AND SO. WITH ONE FALSE STEP, IT BECOMES AWFULLY FRIGHTENING

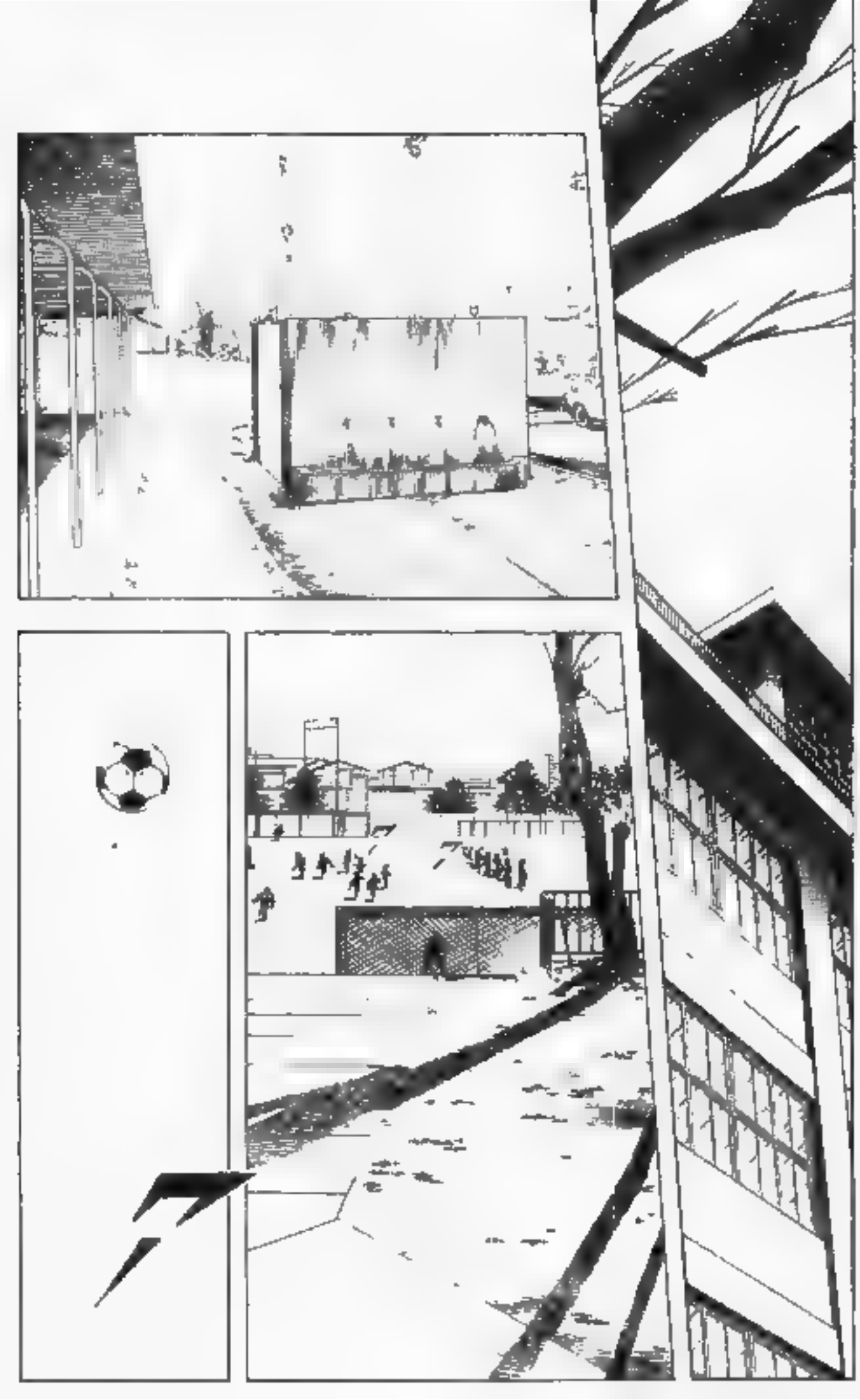
MM
IN THAT RESPECT A PAWNSHOP IS.

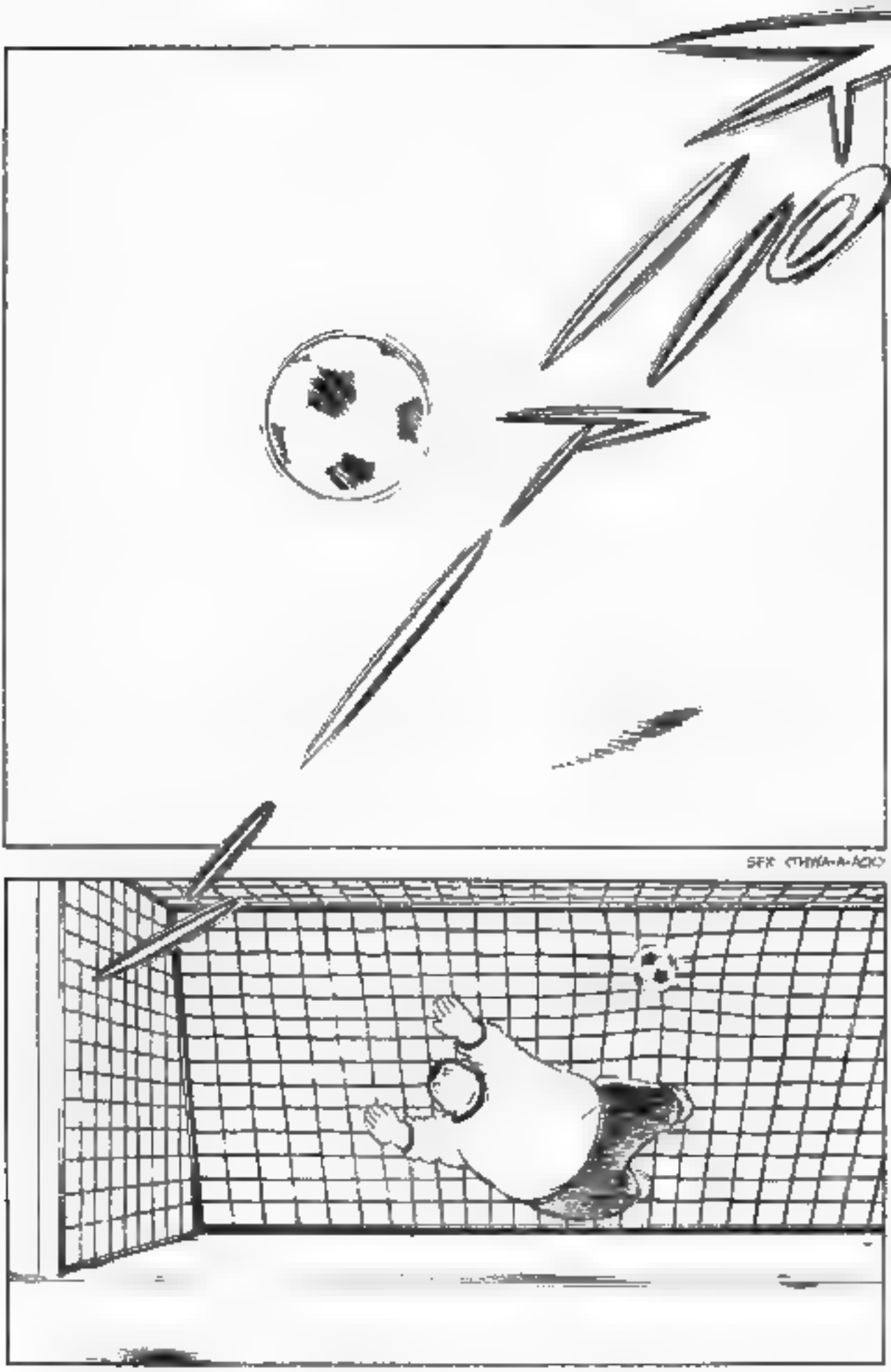
I WASN'T TRYING TO IMPLY THAT
AH, WE-E-ELL ..
LET'S GO TO SENSEI'S PARENT'S HOME THE NAGAO PAWNSHOP!
IF WE ALL GRADUATE AND HAVE A HARD TIME MAKING A LIVING...
ALL RIGHT!
WAH!

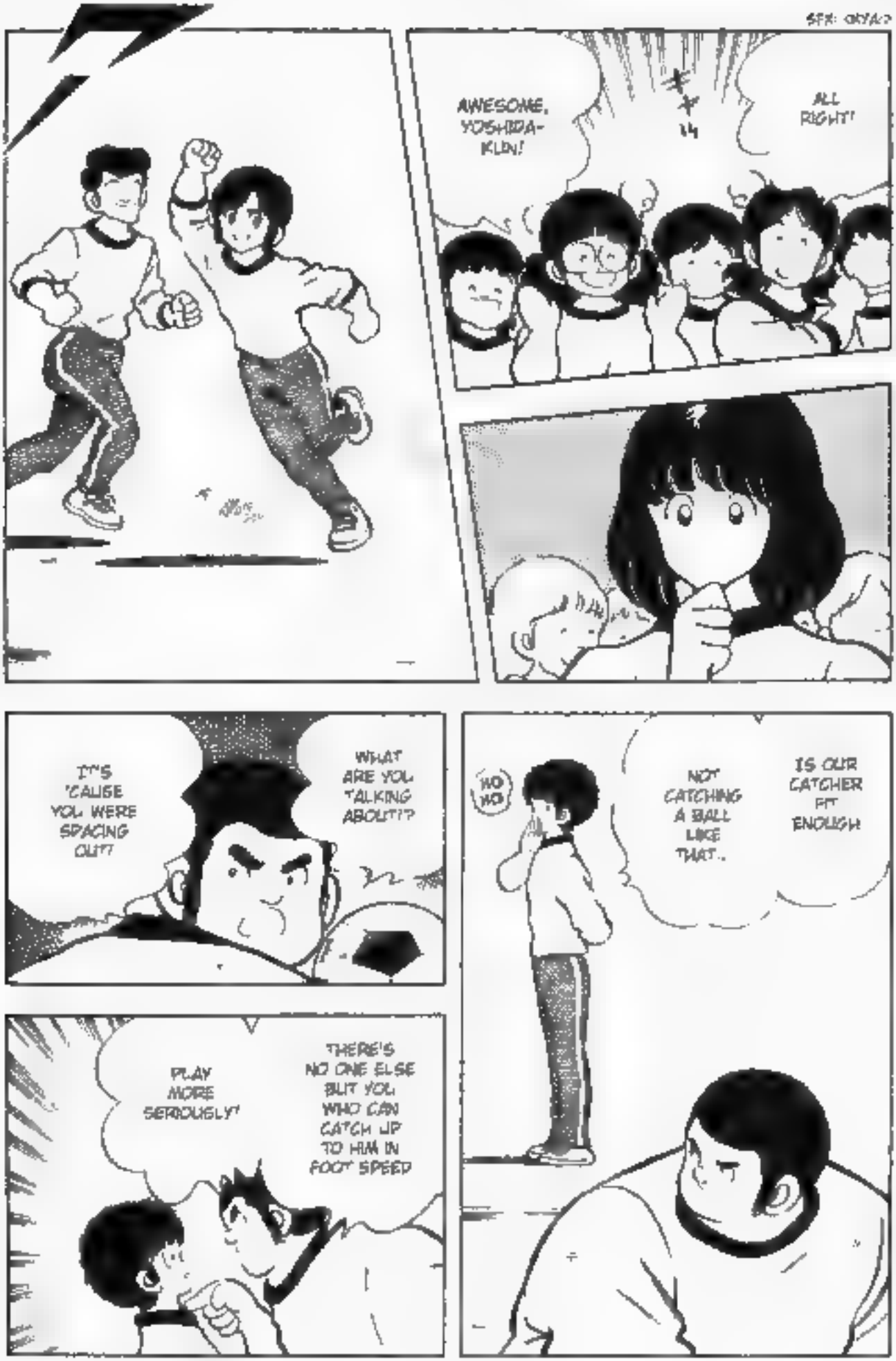
WE WOULDN'T BE DRIVEN TO SUICIDE EITHER.
IF THERE WASN'T ANY DEBT COLLECTING TO BE AFRAID OF
IF WE RESIGN OURSELVES TO JUST PAWNING STUFF THAT WOULD BE THAT
A PAWNSHOP IS SAFE

HM?
HE HADN'T STOOD OUT AT ALL IN CLASS, HUH?
UNTIL NOW
YEAH.
YOSHIDA.
THAT SAME CONFIDENCE IS DRAWING OUT HIS OWN STRENGTHS THAT WE HADN'T NOTICED UP TO NOW
IT'S HIS SELF-CONFIDENCE
DON'T YOU THINK HE'S BRAZENLY GOTTEN GROSSLY CHEERFUL LATELY?

IT WAS ONLY HIDDEN BEHIND HIS PASSIVE PERSONALITY
OF COURSE HE'S ALWAYS HAD TALENT
AND SO HE'S GOT CONFIDENCE IN HIMSELF AGAIN.
AFTER ALL, UNLIKE YOU, HE ENJOYS BASEBALL PRACTICE
IF IT COMES TO THAT HE'LL BE SCARY!!
WAH!
SFX: <PLONK>
WHOA!
DON'T TOUCH ME WITH YOUR FILTHY HANDS!!
EVEN THOUGH SOMEONE'S WORRYING ABOUT YOU...!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?




SFX: CHUKA-A-ACK!


SFX: GYA-?
AWESOME, YOSHIDA-KUN!
ALL RIGHT!
IT'S 'CAUSE YOU WERE SPACING OUT?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
PLAY MORE SERIOUSLY!
THERE'S NO ONE ELSE BUT YOU WHO CAN CATCH UP TO HIM IN FOOT SPEED
HO HO
NOT CATCHING A BALL LIKE THAT..
IS OUR CATCHER FIT ENOUGH

HESUGI!

GO-O-O!
YOSHIDA-
A-A-A!

IF YOU SHOW JUST A FEW GOOD POINTS...
THE GIRLS WILL ROOT FOR YOU.
WHACK
WHERE ARE YOU LOOKING?
OH, IT'S YOU, MINAMI

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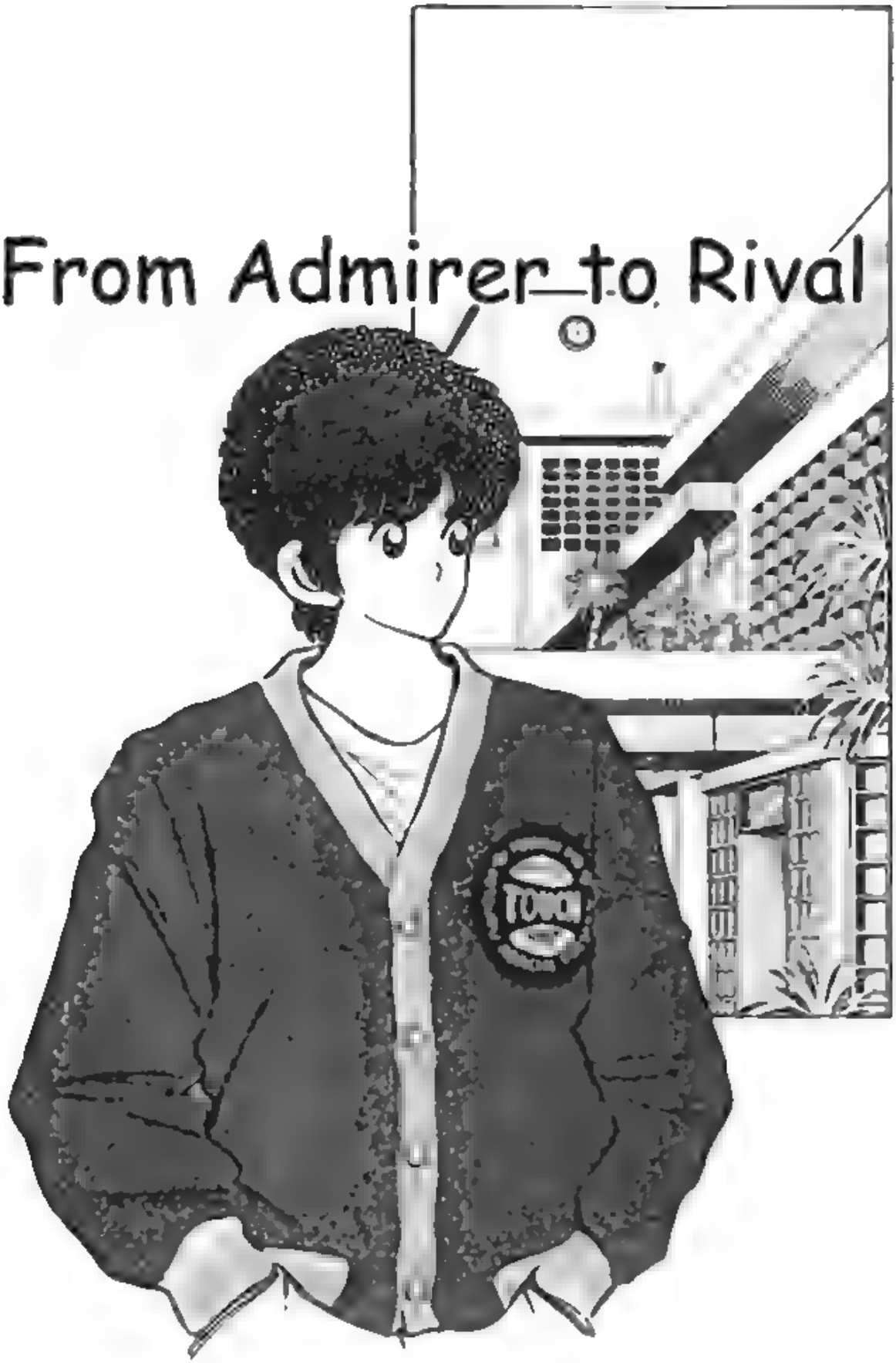
DTEH

From Admirer to Rival



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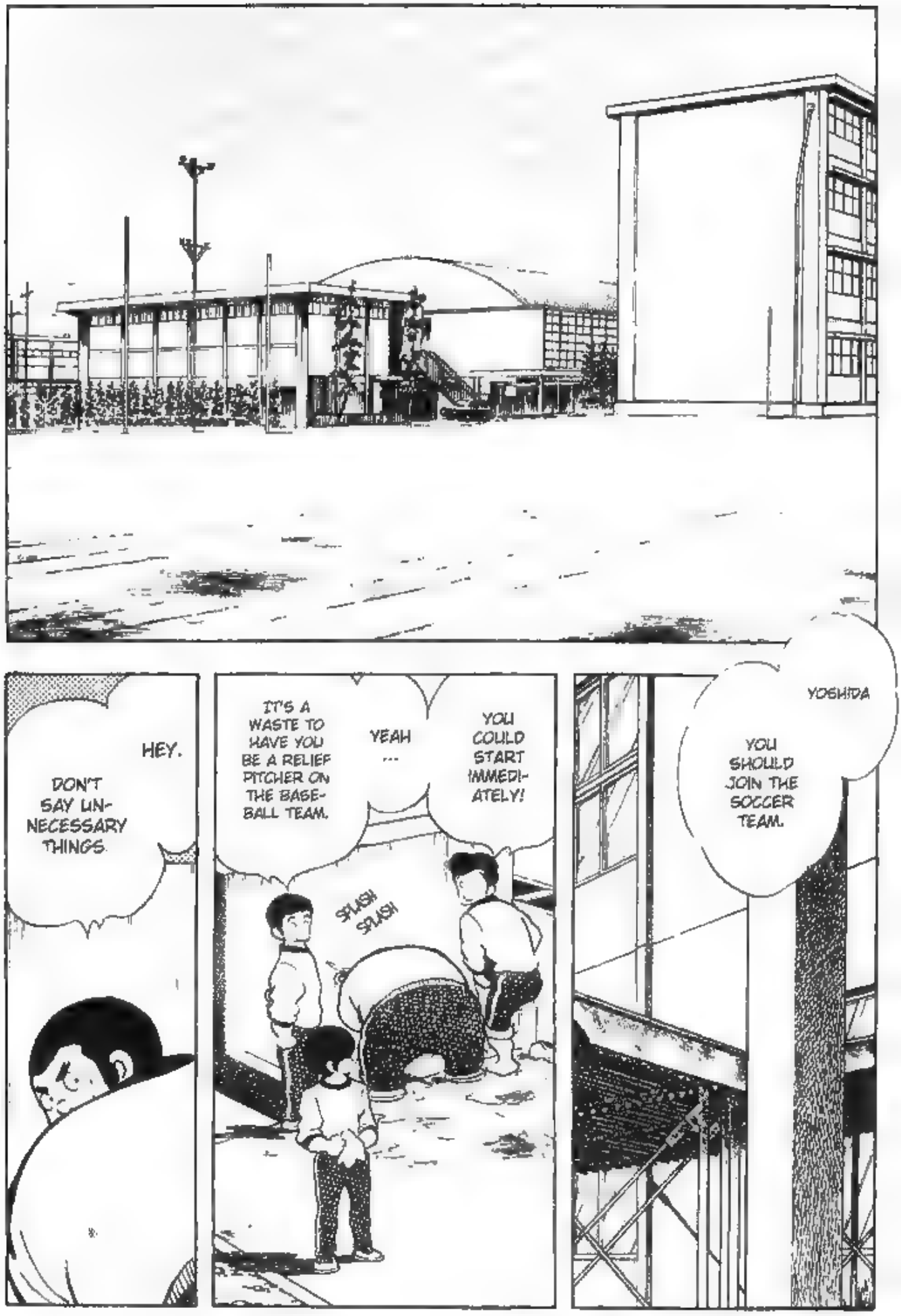
TERRIFIC, TERRIFIC!
ALL RIGHT, GO YOSHIDA!

SFX: <CRUNCH!>
OKAY
THAT'S IT!
PHWEEET

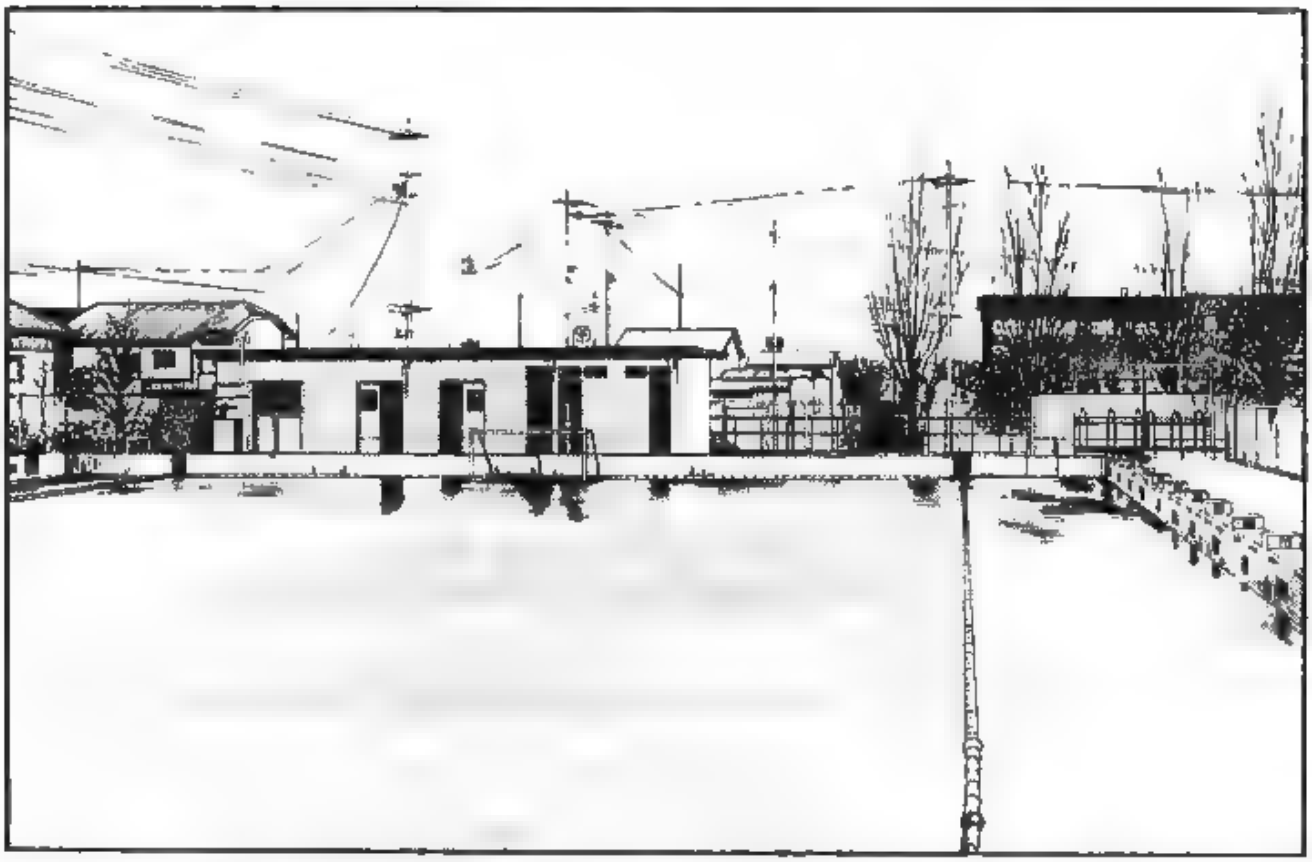

HEY.
DON'T SAY UN-NECESSARY THINGS.
IT'S A WASTE TO HAVE YOU BE A RELIEF PITCHER ON THE BASE-BALL TEAM.
YEAH ...
YOU COULD START IMMEDI-ATELY!
SPLASH! SPLASH!
YOSHIDA
YOU SHOULD JOIN THE SOCCER TEAM.

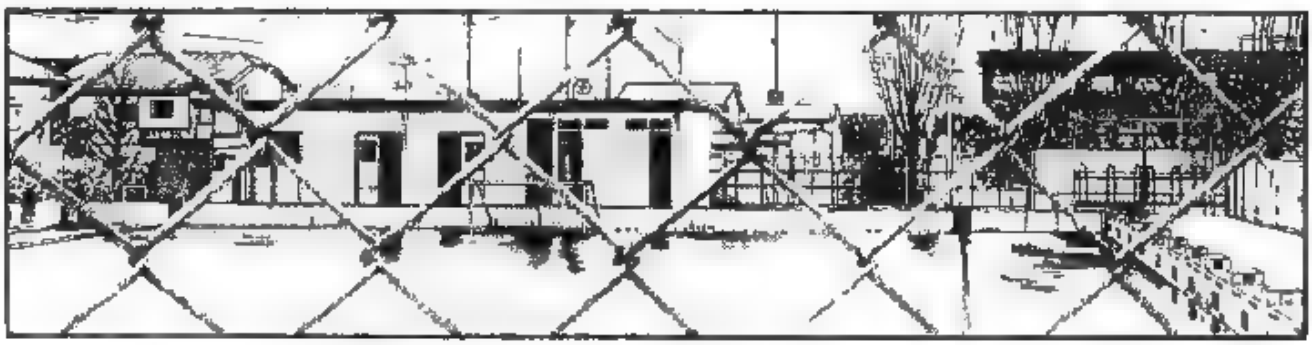
RIGHT?
'CAUSE EVEN YOSHIDA HAS NO INTENTION OF ENDING UP AS A RELIEF PITCHER.
AH...
YEAH.
RIGHT?

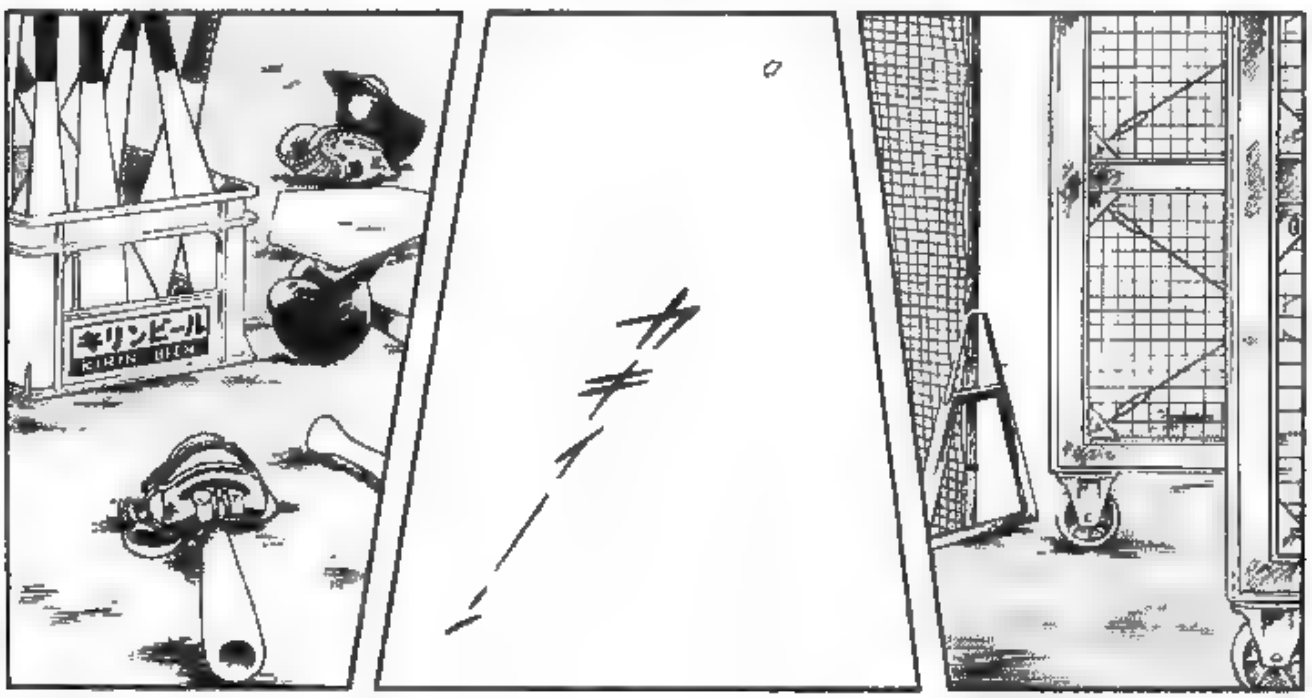
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SWISH
MM.
NOTHING
Who did that!?
HESUGI'S SKIPPING OUT ON CLEANUP DUTY-Y-Y!
HUH?
YOSHIDA-KUN WAS RAISING A RUCKUS.

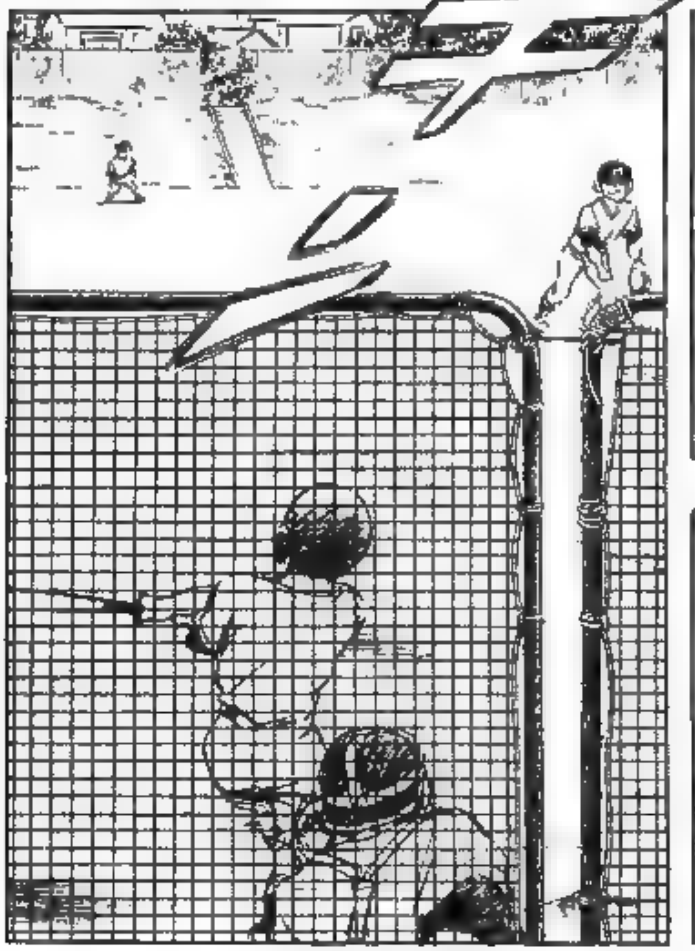
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
THAT'S WHY, THE CLEANUP DUTY...
JEEZ...
AFTER ALL I'VE DONE FOR HIM!?
THAT YOSHIDA ...
HE'S SUDDENLY SHOWN UP WITH THAT INCITEFUL ATTITUDE.
"WERE"?
WELL ...
FROM THE OUTSET, YOU WERE YOSHIDA-KUN'S GOAL, TATCHAN...
DAMN!
A DE-MOTION, HUH?
INTO A LIFE OF A RIVAL.
IT'S A CASE OF CHANGING FROM A LIFE OF AN ADMIRER...
RIGHT ...

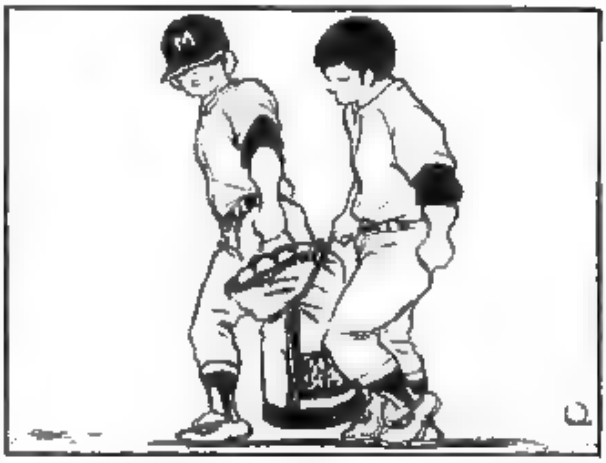
THAT'S RIGHT ...
'CAUSE THAT SHOULD BE GOOD FOR YOSHIDA-KUN, TOO.
SO THERE'S NO NEED TO PULL YOUR PUNCHES... JUST KNOCK HIM OUT!
SUCH VIOLENCE.
WHAP
AND YOU DO YOUR BEST TO KNOCK HIM OUT, TOO, TATCHAN!
SO...
HOW FAR ARE YOU PLANNING ON FOLLOW-ING ME?
Rhythmic Gymnastics Team Dressing Room
SO...?

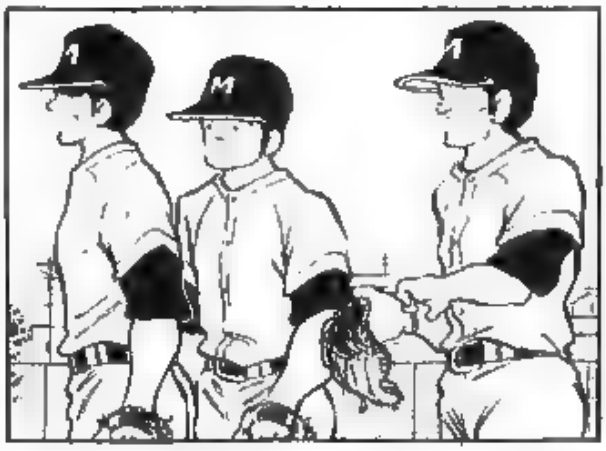


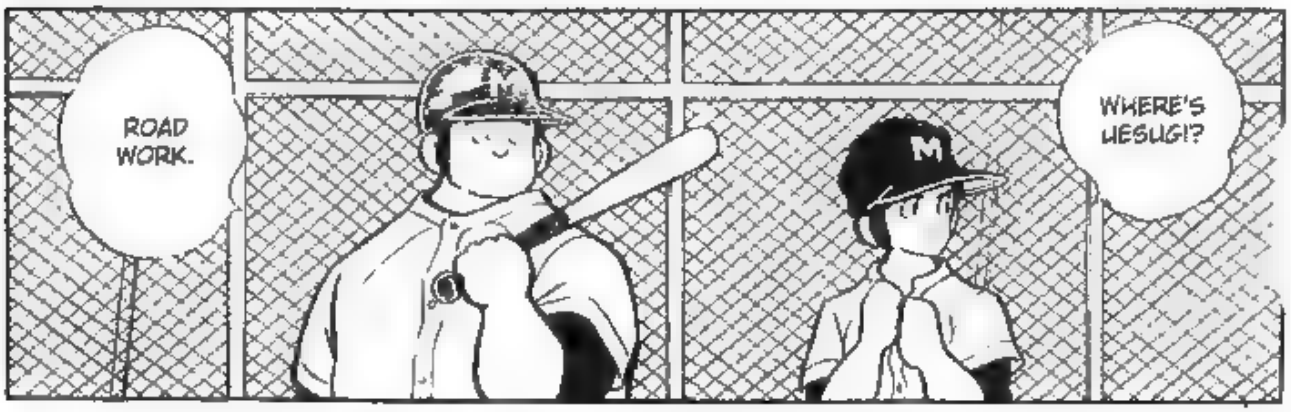



キリンビール
KIRIN BEER








ROAD WORK.
WHERE'S UESUGI?

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE, FOR NOW, HE'LL ONLY BE RUNNING, AS MUCH AS HE CAN...
IT SEEMS HE'S SOMEHOW GOING TO DO THE PRACTICE MENU OF KAZUYA'S WHEN KAZUYA WAS PLAYING .

AGAIN?

RIGHT... THE CAPTAIN.
AH... ME?
YOU'RE THE CAPTAIN, RIGHT!?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "MAYBE SO..."
HE'S JUST PLAYING HOOKY SOME-WHERE.
MAYBE SO.
'CAUSE, STRANGELY, HE'S POPULAR WITH THE GUYS.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
IF YOU'RE ONLY LETTING HIM DO WHAT HE LIKES, WHAT HAPPENS TO TEAMWORK?
A-HEM.
YOU WERE HIS FAN, LIKE THAT, TOO, WEREN'T YOU?
WHAT?
JEEZ!

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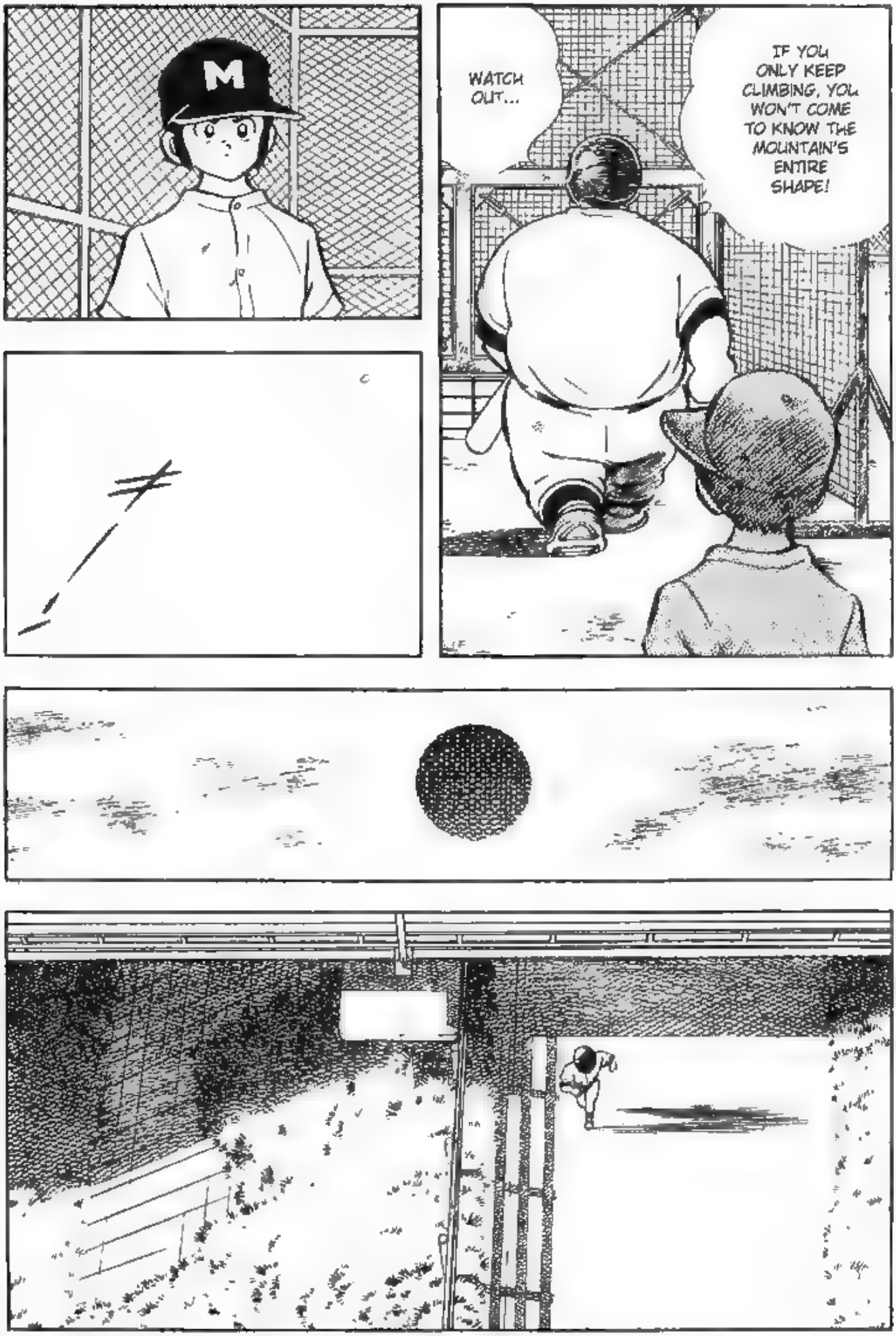
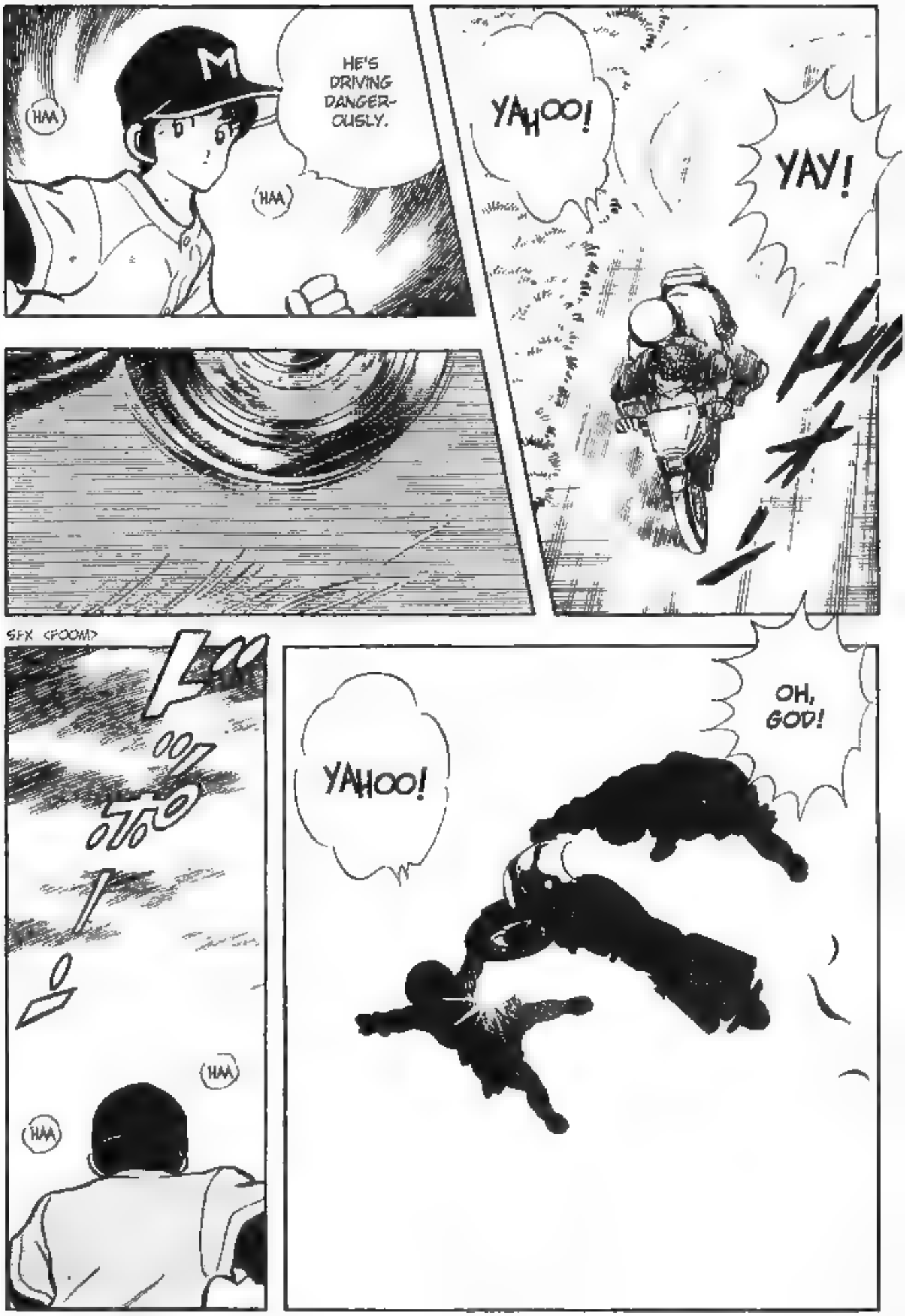

M
WATCH OUT...
IF YOU ONLY KEEP CLIMBING, YOU WON'T COME TO KNOW THE MOUNTAIN'S ENTIRE SHAPE!

I'VE CUT DOWN A LOT ON MY TIME!
HOW'S THIS, KAZUYA?
HAA
EVEN MY BREATH-ING...
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAS BECOME STEADY.
BEFORE LONG...


HAA
HE'S DRIVING DANGER-OUSLY.
HAA
YAHOO!
YAY!
SFX <FOOM>
HAA
HAA
YAHOO!
OH, GOD!

Hurry Up and Save Me!

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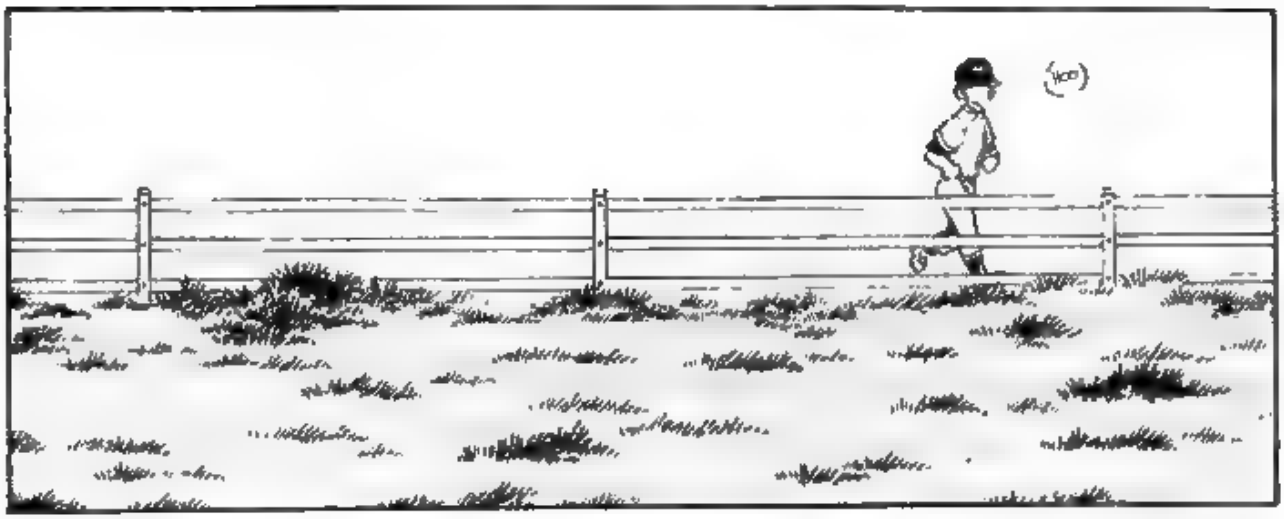
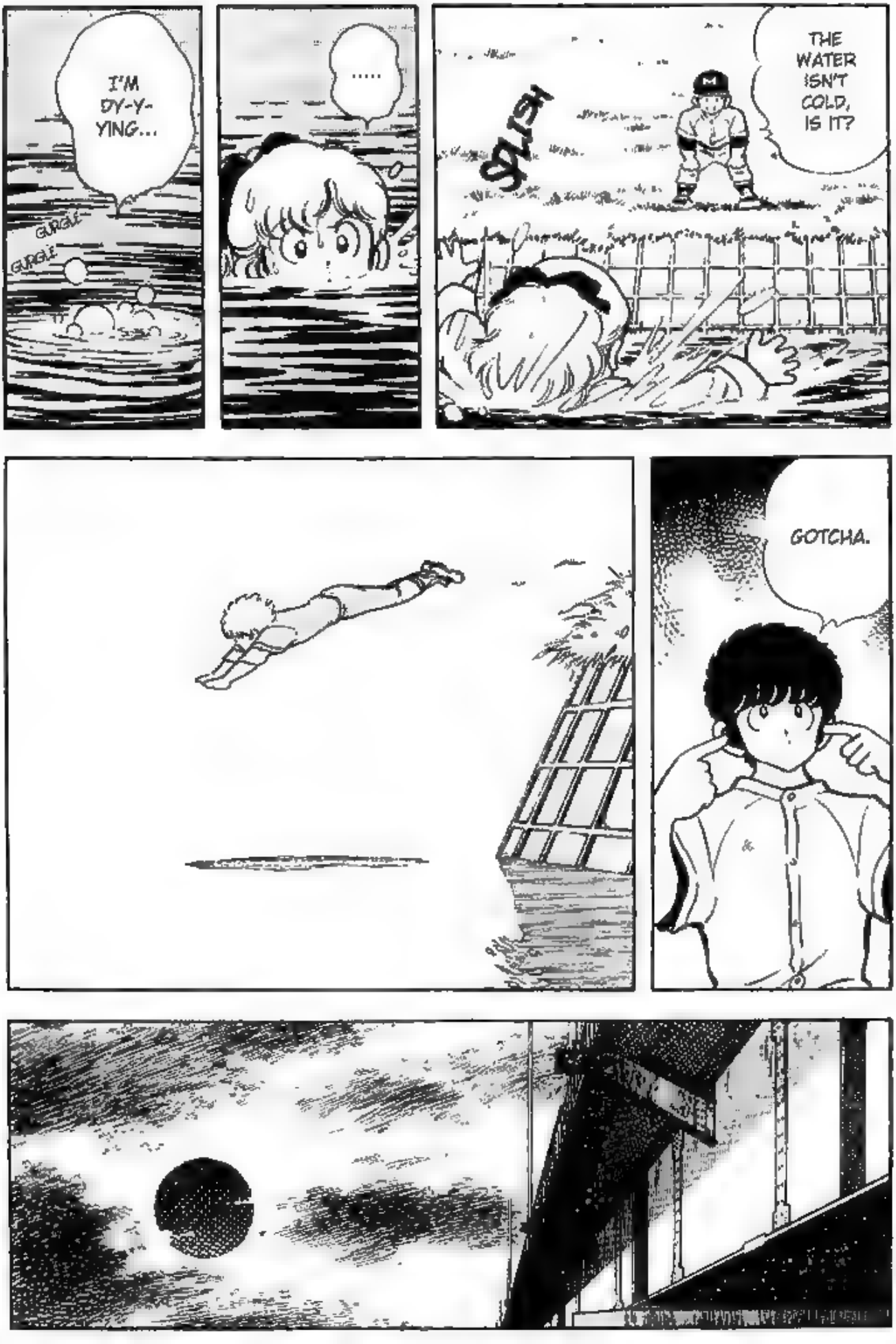


SFX: <SPLASH SPLASH>

SFX: <SPLASH SPLASH>

GLUB
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS !?
HEEEY!
YOU CAN'T SWIM !?
OH GOD !!
ISN'T THAT OBVI-OUS!?
HEEEY ...
GUY OVER THERE.
LIGHTLY
JEEZ!
I'M DY-Y-YING!
HURRY UP AND SAVE ME!
SIGH
THERE'S NO SWIMMING ON KAZUYA'S PRACTICE MENU, IS THERE?


I'M DY-Y-YING...
GURGL
GURGL
.....
THE WATER ISN'T COLD, IS IT?
GOTCHA.

COUGH !?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
GOD WILL PUNISH YOU!
IF YOU DON'T SAY EVEN A SINGLE WORD OF GRATI-TUDE..
WHY, YOU!
SMP
YA LECH!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME...
AHH!!
YOU ...!?

GRR!!
NOT ME...

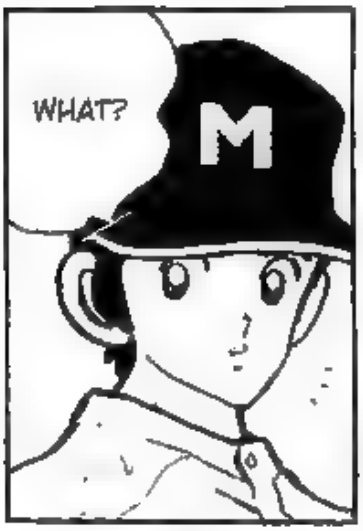
M
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "YOU"?

YOU'RE ...

.....

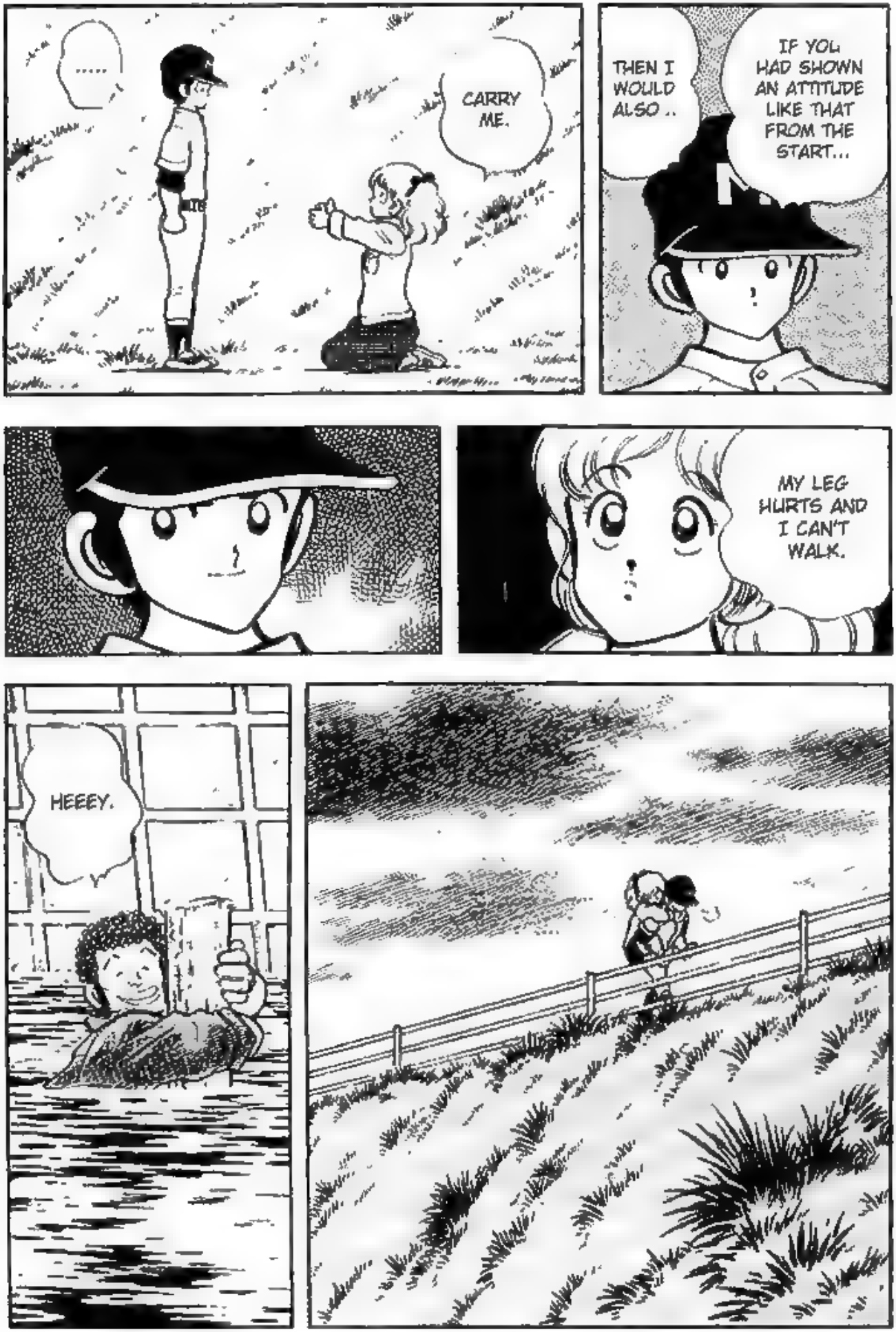
CAN'T BE HELPED, I GUESS.
I'LL SEE YOU TO YOUR HOME. IS YOUR PLACE FAR AWAY?

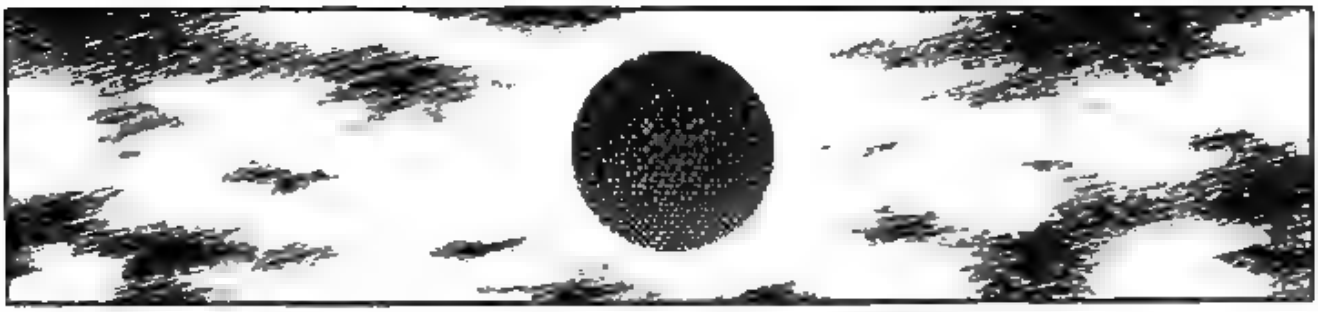
M
AH...
OWW ...

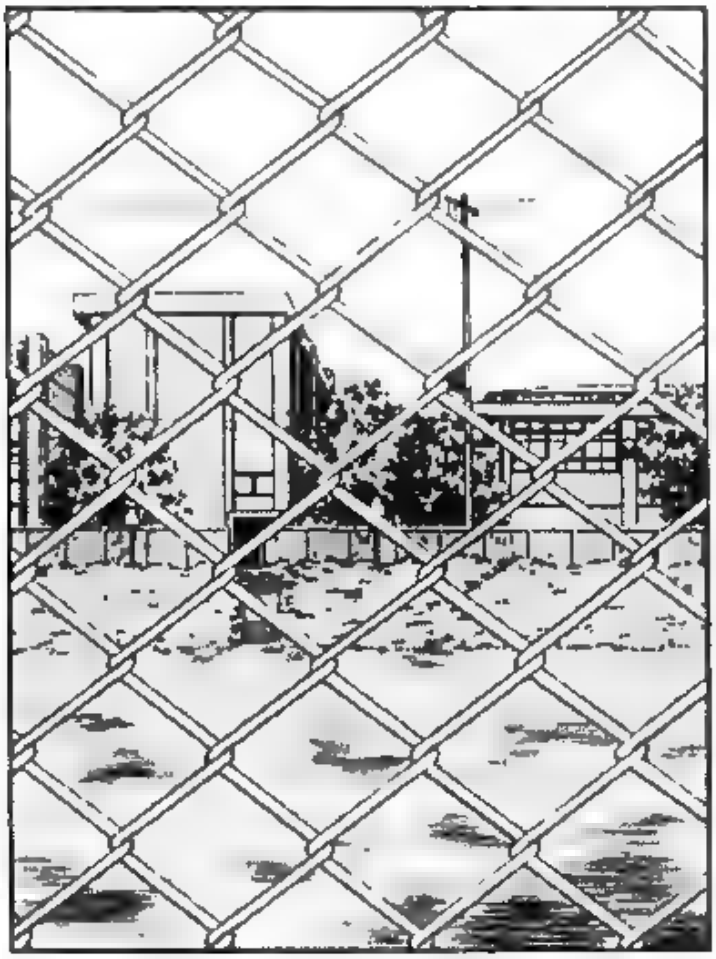

WHAT?
M

M
DID YOU HURT YOUR LEG?

KYA!!
M
YOU LECH.
IT'S 'CAUSE I'M CUTE, RIGHT?
I WON'T SAVE YOU AND JUST RUN ON BY.
LET'S REWIND TO THE FIRST SCENE.
THIS IS NO GOOD.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
I BEG YOU.
PLEASE TAKE ME HOME.
AH AHH
I SHALL NEVER FORGET THIS DEBT OF GRATITUDE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
TIME, TIME!
RING

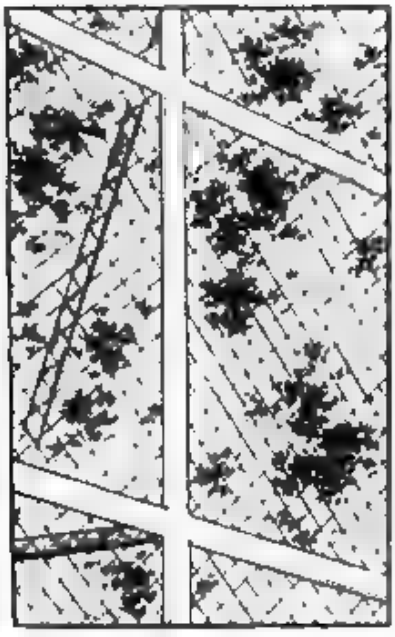

.....
CARRY ME.
THEN I WOULD ALSO ..
IF YOU HAD SHOWN AN ATTITUDE LIKE THAT FROM THE START...
?
MY LEG HURTS AND I CAN'T WALK.
HEEEY.





(GIRL CHEERS! HIGH SCHOOL)

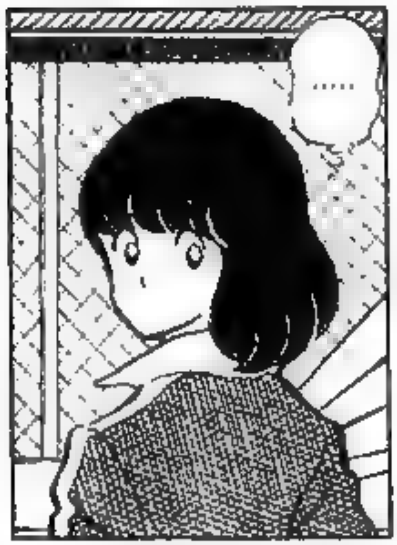
OKA-
A-AY.
THAT'S
IT.



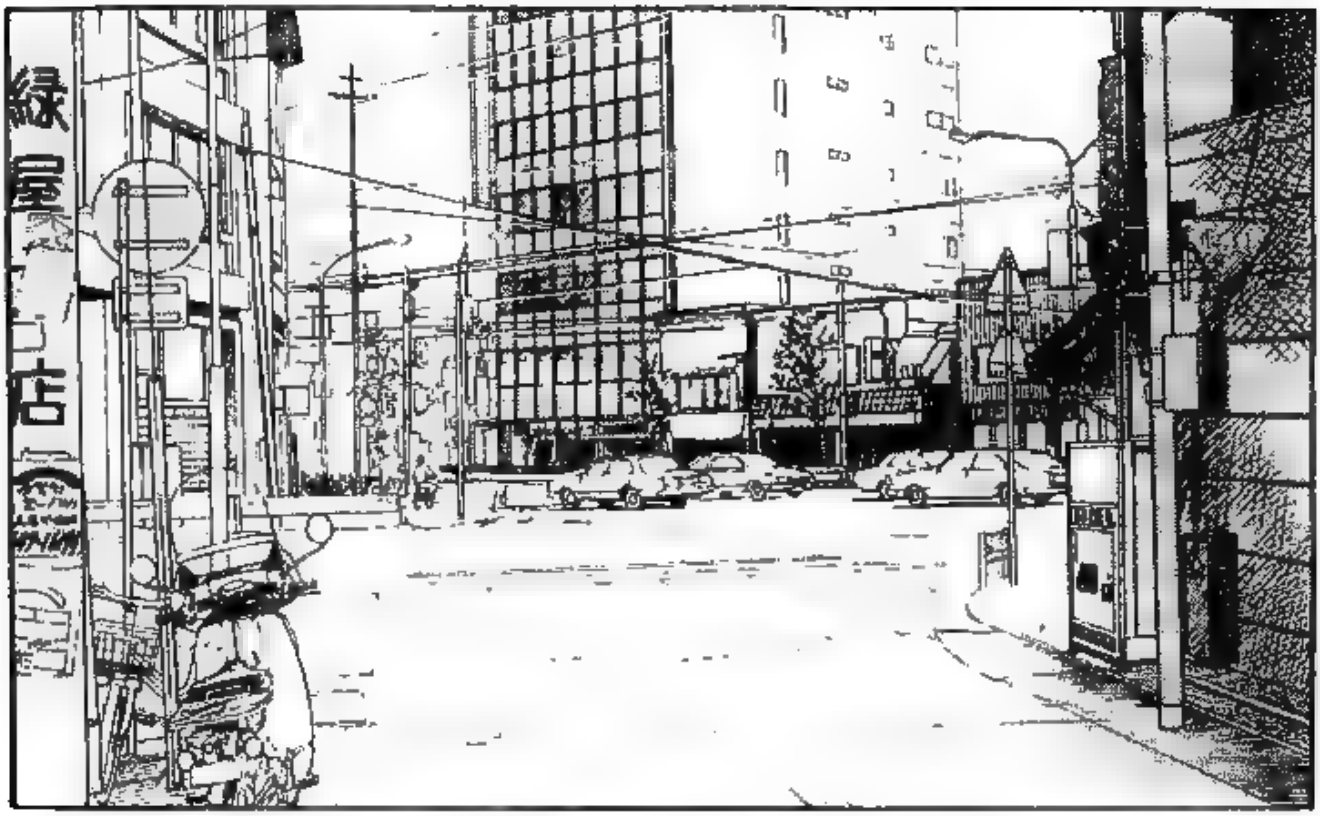
FIRST-YEARS, POLISH THE BALLS.
YE-E-ES.

WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM?
YEAH ... THAT'S TRUE.

HE DIDN'T COME BACK AFTER ALL.
HM?


.....

HE'S SLEEPING, SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY.
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?

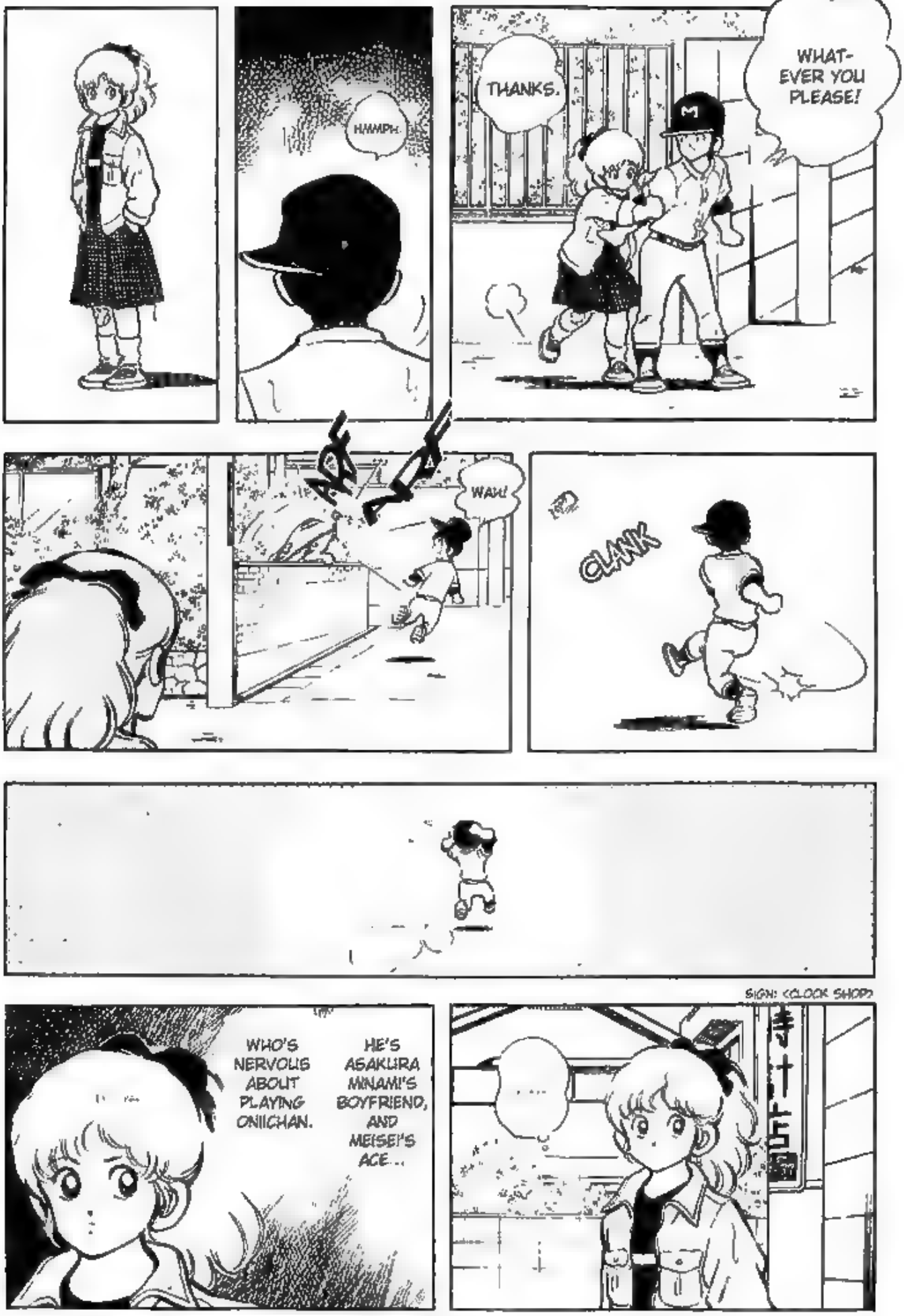

緑荘

THIS HOUSE ?
NO, BUT ...
IT'S RIGHT OVER THERE.

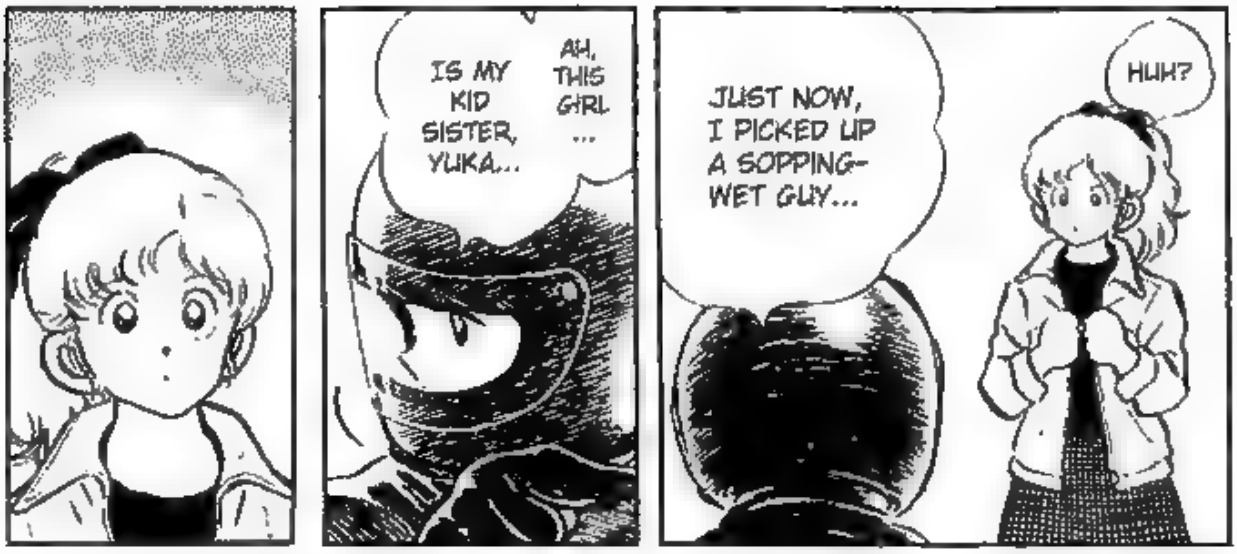
AH...
THIS PLACE IS OKAY.

WATCH OUT.
HEY, PUT ME DOWN!
I SAID THIS IS FINE, DIDN'T I!?

IT'S THE NEXT ONE, SO...
THEN ...

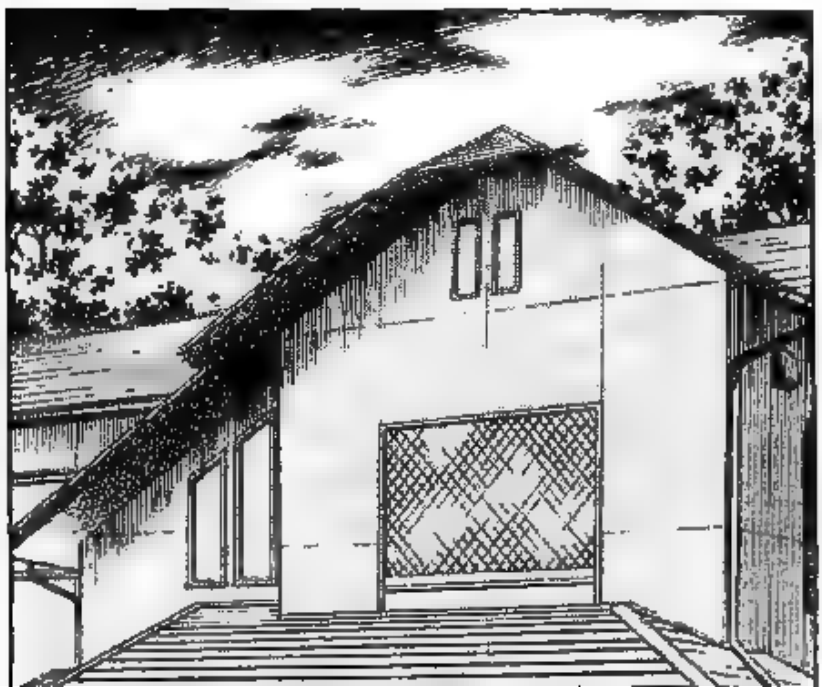

HMMPH.
THANKS.
WHAT-EVER YOU PLEASE!
WAH!
CLANK
SIGN: <CLOCK SHOP>
WHO'S NERVOUS ABOUT PLAYING ONIICHAN.
HE'S ASAKURA MINAMI'S BOYFRIEND, AND MEISEI'S ACE...
...

I HAVE TO HURRY AND CHANGE CLOTHES
SO COLD ...
SNIFFLE
KA-CHOO!
I GOT SOAKED!
LOOK AT ME!
ONIICHAN.
WAS THERE A SUDDEN DOWNPOUR OR SOME-THING AROUND HERE?


IS MY KID SISTER, YUKA...
AH, THIS GIRL ...
JUST NOW, I PICKED UP A SOPPING-WET GUY...
HUH?

I'M WESUGI TATSU-YA...
GLAD TO MEET YOU.

AH... SAME HERE!



Nitta

HIS LEGS ARE LONGER THAN MINE.
SHIT.
SQUEEK
AH... THANKS.
PUT THIS ON FOR NOW.
HI.
SFX: <BANG>
.....
HMMPH!

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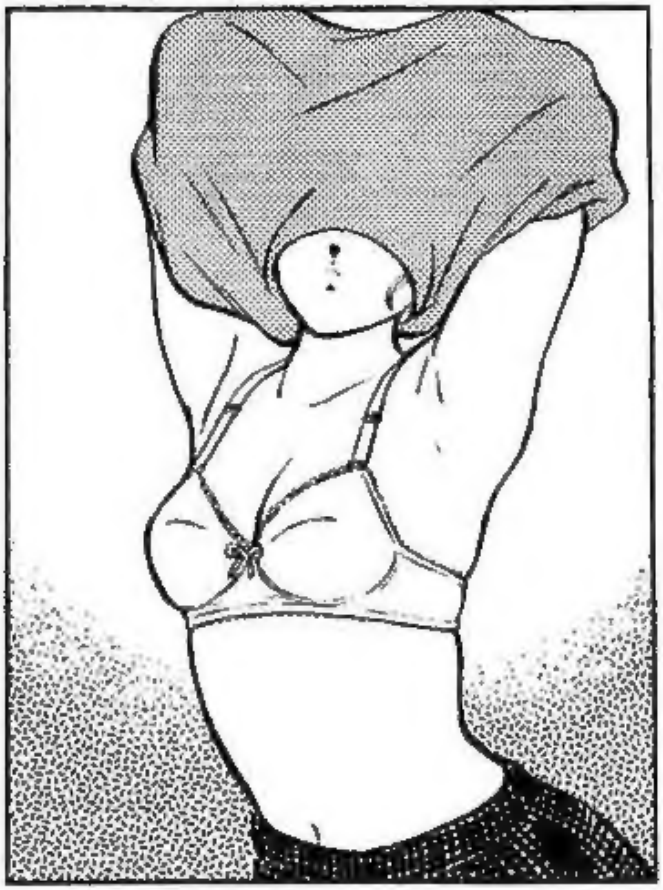
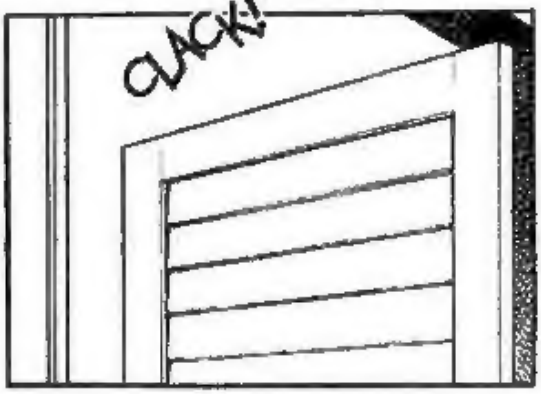
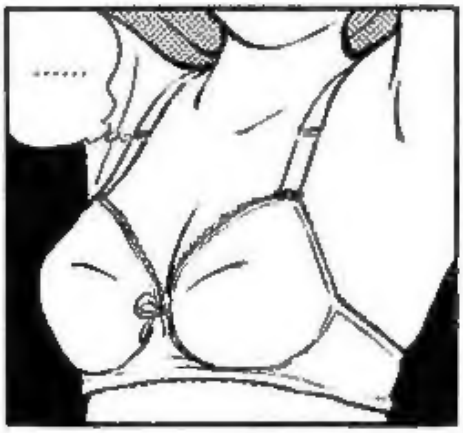
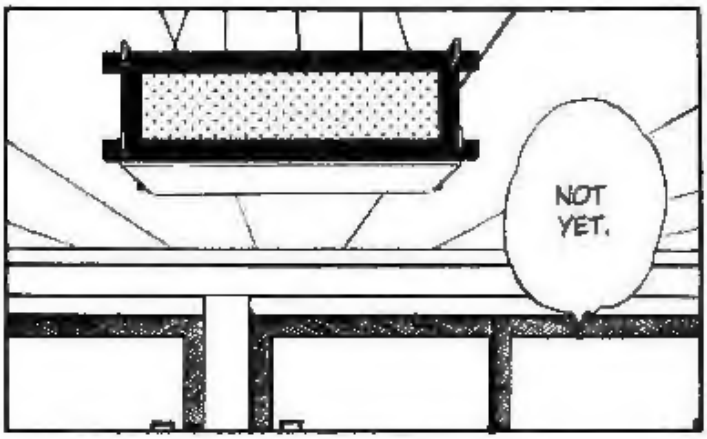







NOT YET.

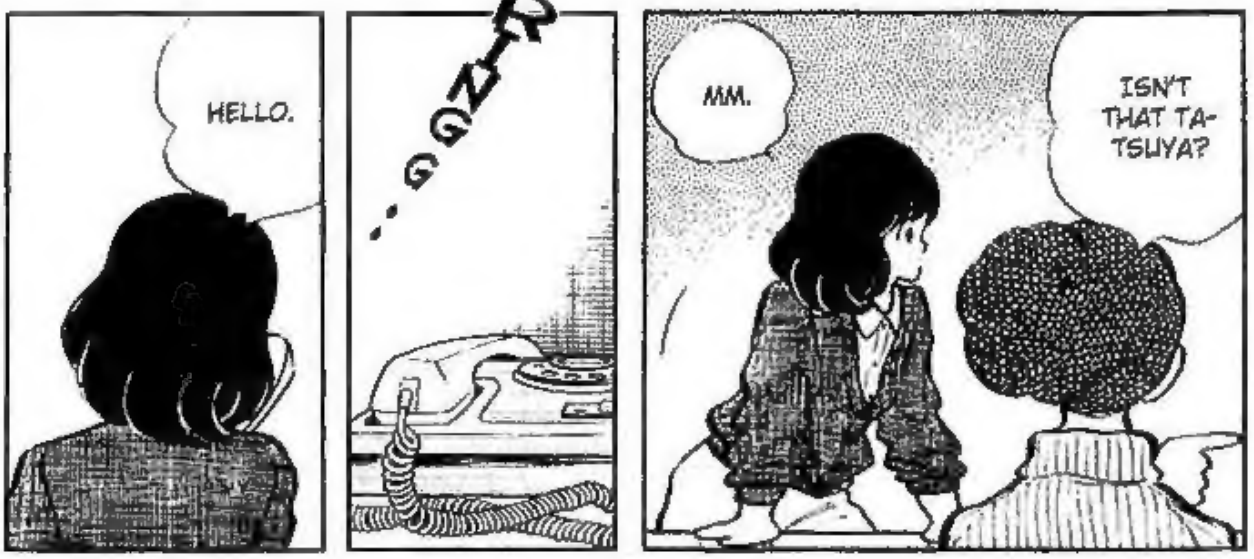
HAS TATCHAN COME HOME?

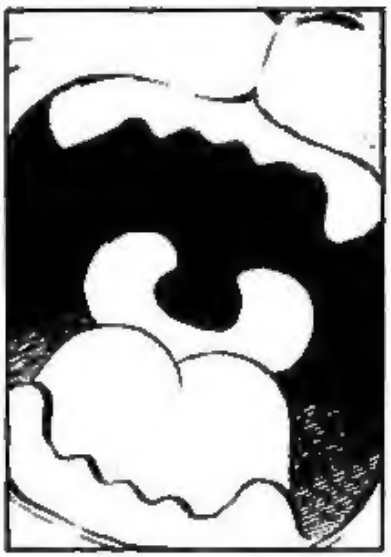
WHERE COULD HE HAVE GONE?
HOW STRANGE ...

...SIGH

A SOURCE OF WORRY FOR YOU, HM, MINAMI-CHAN?
REALLY, FOR A LONG TIME NOW THAT BOY HAS ONLY BEEN...

WOULD YOU LIKE SOME TEA?
UH-HUH.





Touch Volume 12 / END